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of the

American Iris Society

Number 292 January 1994



ARTILIAN ACRES



QUEEN'S VIOLET
H. Shockey '94 – TB



SHEBA'S JEWEL
H. Shockey '94
AB 1/2 (OBG)



DESERT FURY
H. Shockey '94
AB 1/2 (OBG)

Please see advertisement on page 61

J. H. THOMPSON
FEB 04 1994
LIBRARY

**BULLETIN
OF THE
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**
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On The Cover: Siberian irises perform beautifully in a Michigan garden.
Photo by Hollingworth.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

The busy year-end holidays of 1993 are memories as everyone begins 1994 with great expectations. The fall Board meeting in Tulsa is history. Because of publishing schedules, however, it is still early fall at this writing; there is no crystal ball to tell me just what will take place at that meeting, what decisions and/or compromises will be reached. No matter what happens, it is essential that you, the members of the AIS, know that the members of the Board, individually and collectively, are attempting to do what is best for the Society as a whole.

It is no easy assignment to resolve questions such as those concerning American Iris Society garden awards or where best to keep the Society's library materials. The awards matter is extremely complex, with many pros and cons. For the library location, there are four excellent proposals; the choice will be a difficult one. And these are just the subjects which make the headlines, so to speak. If you read the minutes of Board meetings closely, you will see that there is much activity of the "nuts and bolts" type, so necessary in keeping the machinery running smoothly. It should be noted, also, that the machinery doesn't shut down between Board meetings; the work goes on. Whatever happens in Tulsa, it is beyond the bounds of reason to think that all the members of the Society will be completely happy with the outcome of this or any other Board meeting; the Board members themselves have divergent opinions, but the goal is always to look at the whole picture and move ahead for the good of the Society.

During the past few months there have been letters and phone calls from quite a few members about a variety of topics. These contacts are appreciated. Please keep them coming. Favorable comments are welcome, of course, but so is criticism, especially of the constructive kind.

Irises will be blooming again before we know it. The convention in Portland should be a beautiful one. Plan to come, if you can, to see the best in irises and lots of friendly people.

NEW DIRECTORS

Terry Aitken

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Terry developed a green thumb at a tender age but did not focus on iris activities until after graduating from the University of Minnesota (Bachelor of Architecture) in 1968.

Iris collecting began with the landscaping of his and Barbara's first custom home in Minneapolis. The Schreiner catalog fueled his interest in the diversity of colors and patterns. Through the Iris Society of Minnesota, Terry visited many iris gardens, and Mrs. Bakke (MINNESOTA GLITTERS) gently nudged him into AIS membership.

In 1974 Terry, Barbara and their two sons, Scott and Ken, headed west to the gentler climate of the Northwest in Vancouver, Washington. Here his gardening interest became focused, influenced by the hybridizing activities of Gus Schreiner, Bennett Jones, and George Shoop. The hybridizing "bug" hit hard, and Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden now maintains approximately an acre of seedlings of many iris types—(Ben Hager is also a role model). Terry's hybridizing efforts have been rewarded with many AIS awards including 2 Sass medals and 2 Caparne-Welch medals.

Terry was quickly absorbed into organized iris activities in Portland, first by joining the Greater Portland Iris Society (1975) where he has served as president, and later, Region 13 of AIS where he was RVP. In this capacity Terry attended his first National AIS convention in 1980 and has seldom missed one since. Terry has served as Median Slide Chairman and is also the Chairman for the AIS National Convention in Portland in 1994.

James P. McWhirter

James P. (Jim) McWhirter has attended every national convention, except one, since 1972. His interest in irises has grown with each year. He is a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and he is a graduate of Vanderbilt University. When he was a child, he lived behind Mrs. R. A. Gotto who was good friends with Jesse Wills and Geddes Douglas, noted irisarians of the day. He traveled to their gardens with Mrs. Gotto and gained a sound background in appreciating and judging irises.

While completing a degree at Vanderbilt with a major in English and a minor in accounting, Jim's interest in irises was interrupted. However, after moving to San Francisco, he and Don Denney acquired some land in the Hayward area and Cottage Gardens became their commercial garden name. He began his hybridizing program immediately, and in 1977, he introduced his iris TENNESSEE FROST. Since then, he has introduced many others. Although he has introduced irises of many colors, he is most interested in hybridizing whites and blues.

Jim has been active in Region 14 for many years and served as the Regional Vice President, Judges' Training Chairman, and in other capacities. He has served as president of some of the California iris societies and has been involved in many other activities of the region. He enjoys writing to AIS people all over the United States.

In addition to his iris activities, Jim has worked as treasurer for Tayler Products in South San Francisco, been active in Democratic politics, and served in several positions in The Family Link of San Francisco—a non profit organization helping to provide low cost or free housing for friends and family members of people suffering from AIDS.

Jim truly enjoys visiting iris gardens, and he has traveled to several states and to Japan to visit them. He is an avid collector of iris artifacts, and his collection is one of the best to be found.

Jeanne Clay Plank

Jeanne Clay Plank grew up in Hayward, California, and acquired her love of gardening as a child while “helping” her grandmother in the garden.

Her adult interest in iris had its beginnings in the fall of 1957 when her grandmother sent a few of her rhizomes from irises growing in the Hayward garden to Jeanne for planting in the garden of her new home in Silver Spring, Maryland. A gardening friend, who had recently joined the AIS, saw one of the irises in bloom in 1960, and suggested that it was probably a named variety. Curiosity about the name of this “mystery” iris led to the quest to identify it. Jeanne’s friend, Dorothy, took her to visit the gardens of local irisarians, and without much resistance she was lured into the world of irises. She joined the American Iris Society in 1962 and has maintained that membership, unbroken, ever since.

The quest for the name of the “mystery” iris became incidental as she started collecting named and newer varieties through iris catalog purchases and by attending annual sales and auctions sponsored by the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society. Although she served as Corresponding Secretary for C & P for two years before moving to Annapolis, Maryland, Jeanne’s iris activities were low keyed and consisted mainly of growing several hundred named varieties, attending C & P sales and auctions, going on C & P sponsored spring garden treks, and spreading the iris bug among her friends in the Annapolis theater group in which she was very active at that time. She returned to California in 1977.

In 1985 Jeanne undertook the renovation of the 4,000 square foot iris garden at Descanso Gardens, a 150 acre botanic garden in the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta. She is the Volunteer Curator of the Iris Garden at Descanso and oversees all aspects of a continually growing collection that today numbers almost 1300 different clones in all classes of irises except miniature dwarf bearded. Jeanne is a recent past member of the board of trustees of the Descanso Gardens Guild and served on the Executive Committee for one year as Vice President - Horticulture.

She is an active member in the Southern California Iris Society (SCIS) and the San Fernando Valley Iris Society (SFVIS), and maintains a membership in the Inland Iris Society. She served three terms as treasurer for SCIS, after which she served three years as treasurer for SFVIS. She served three years as secretary for Region 15, and currently edits and publishes the Region 15 Newsletter.

Jeanne has a BS degree in horticulture from the University of Maryland. A garden judge, she maintains memberships in the Japanese, Siberian, Rebloom-ing, Median, Historical, SIGNA, and Pacific Coast Native societies.

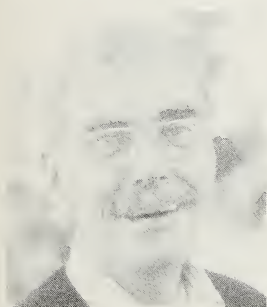
At the national level, Jeanne was first runner up in the Membership Contest award in 1992. In the Fall of 1992 she became the recording secretary for AIS, and in the Fall of 1993, a director on the AIS board.

At home she has integrated another 300 cultivars into a natural canyon landscape that borders on native chaparral. She delights in growing select Japanese and Siberian irises, which, contrary to some, can be made to grow well in Southern California.

Jeanne gives programs to garden clubs, various local iris clubs, Descanso Gardens functions, and, this year, spoke to the Region 15 Fall Meeting. All of her programs are illustrated by slides furnished by husband Bob. Both Bob and Jeanne are life members of AIS.

And, in all of this, was the identity of the "mystery" iris ever discovered? It has never been identified beyond question, but it has been questionably identified as GRAND CANYON. Jeanne still has a clump of that iris from her grandmother's garden growing in her garden in Sun Valley, California, and she invites Irisarians to visit during bloom season to see if they can help settle the mystery once and for all!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS



James P. McWhirter



Terry Aitken



Jeanne Clay Plank



AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION
Portland, Oregon
May 21 - 25, 1994

Sponsored by the Greater Portland Iris Society

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

The Portland Hilton
Portland, OR 97204-1296

921 SW Sixth Avenue
(503) 226-1611 or 1-800/HILTONS

Rates: \$82.00 plus 9% tax for 1-2 people. (Children stay free with parents). An additional \$15.00 plus 9% tax for each person over 2 per room. Book your room reservations directly with the hotel or through the 1-800 number, stating you are with The American Iris Society. All unreserved rooms blocked for the convention will be released after April 20th. Limited free parking in the Hilton garage is available on a first come, first served basis. There is an airport bus which goes from the airport to and from major downtown Portland hotels at a current rate of \$7.00 per person, one way. More details on this in your registration confirmation.

Registration Fees:

Postmarked before March 20, 1994	\$150.00
Postmarked March 20-April 20, 1994	\$165.00
Postmarked after April 20, 1994	\$180.00
Youth 18 and under	\$110.00

Partial Registration: Specify if you *don't* plan to attend any of the following:

Welcome Dinner or Awards Banquet—Deduct \$25.00 for either.
All Gardens (buses, gardens, lunches are package deal)—Deduct \$50.00.

Partial registration rates are available for advance registrations only. Full registration refund will be made if notice is postmarked no later than April 1st; 50% refund will be made if notice is postmarked no later than April 20th; no refund thereafter.

Optional Tours Fees:

Oregon Coast Tour—May 21, 1994	\$22.00
Columbia River Gorge Tour—May 22, 1994	\$22.00

Note: Optional tours are based on demand and must be scheduled at time of registration, but no later than April 20th. If insufficient registrations are received for optional tours, money will be refunded.

When you register, please indicate if you: (1) require special transportation during garden tours, or special meals (2) if this is the first American Iris Society national convention you have attended.

Make checks payable to 1994 AIS Convention and mail to:

Judy Nunn, Registrar
PO Box 126 - Dept. CONV
Silverton, OR 97381-0126

OPTIONAL OREGON COAST TOUR

Saturday, May 21, 1994 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Join us for a day of breathtaking beauty at the rugged Oregon Coast. From Portland you will head west through the fir forests and Coastal Mountain Range to Cannon Beach, located at the Northern end of the Oregon Coast. This artist's community, often referred to as "the Carmel of the North" was named for several cannons that washed ashore from the wreck of Sloop-of-War Shark in 1846. Cannon Beach is also the site of Haystack Rock, the third largest monolith in the world. There will be plenty of time to comb the beach for sea treasures and visit the many unique art galleries and shops in this small "cottage" community. Lunch at a restaurant overlooking the ocean is included in your tour price.

The cost of this tour, including lunch, is \$22.00 per person. Please include this in your convention registration check. Space is limited to 150 registrants. Deadline for reservation for this tour is April 20th.

OPTIONAL TOUR OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE

Sunday, May 22, 1994 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Experience the grandeur of the Columbia River Gorge as you travel through one of the world's most magnificent landscapes. Recently designated a national scenic area, the Gorge is enthralling with its compelling vistas, hanging valleys, terraced cliffs, fantastic rock pinnacles and enchanting waterfalls. The most impressive of these waterfalls is Multnomah Falls, the 4th highest waterfall in the United States. Other sites will include Bonneville Dam and Crown Point, a vantage point at 725 feet above the river, providing a commanding view of the Columbia River Gorge. From Bonneville you will continue up the Gorge to the town of Hood River where, on a windy day, you can expect to see the colorful sails of the windsurfers who flock from around the world to this windsurfing capital. The tour will include lunch at the Hood River Inn.

The cost of this tour, including lunch, is \$22.00 per person. Please include this in your convention registration check. Space is limited to 150 registrants. Deadline for reservation for this tour is April 20th.

American Iris Society Conventions

1994	Portland, OR	May 21-25
1995	Hershey, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	
1997	Detroit, MI	
1998	Denver, CO	
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeane Stayer, Secretary, 7414 E 60th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

IN MEMORIAM

Leon C. Wolford

Leon C. Wolford, Past President of AIS, died on August 13, 1993. Leon's first association with AIS was through the Iris Society of Dallas. He later became a regional officer, then the RVP of Region 17 (Texas). He was elected to the AIS Board, served as Vice-President, and was elected President in 1978. This was a period of traumatic change and great financial difficulties for the society. Due to his leadership and dedication, the entire AIS Board followed his example of serving in their positions at no cost to the Society. He never forgot his roots and succeeded in opening up the workings of AIS to the RVPs and the membership. He attended every convention and meeting and was tireless in his commitment to AIS.

An outstanding event of his tenure was his acceptance of an exquisite Sevres vase, donated by Mme. Valéry Giscard D'Estaing, as the 1st Grand Prize of the Orléans Competition, held in 1978. This was awarded to AIS as the Grand Prix in appreciation of the cooperation and response of the AIS to the International Congress held in France. Another outstanding event was his attendance at the 1980 Les Floralles Internationales de Montreal Conferencier in Canada. This was a conference of the outstanding leaders worldwide in horticulture. Leon presented a paper, "Development of Modern Tall Bearded Irises: An Overview". This paper was printed in English and French in the conference publication.

Following his presidency, he served as President of AISF and Chairman of the Honorary Awards Committee. He was elected Judge Emeritus. He received many awards over the years, including the Stella B. Chapman Award from ISD and the prestigious Distinguished Service Medal of AIS. Upon retiring, he and his constant companion and loving wife, Edith, built a home in Whitewright, Texas. They established Skyline Farm, specializing in TBs and LAs. He continued hybridizing and introduced: COWBOY MYSTIQUE and COPPER LACE (TBs) and ALMERIA (LA, HM '91). They formed the Fannin County Iris Society in 1982. They also belonged to the Fort Worth Iris Society, were honorary members of the Rainbow Iris Society of Sherman, TX and belonged to the Society for Louisiana Iris. He served as a director of the board of the latter.

Leon was a very special person and will be greatly missed.

IN MEMORIAM

Joe Barrows (Oklahoma)
Leslie Calloway (Delaware)
Mrs. Martin Dean (Texas)
Constance Hansen (California)
Earl A. Holl (Indiana)

Dr. Frederick Judy (Washington)
Ivy Lavacot (Tennessee)
Samuel Sipe (Maryland)
Robert Small (Kansas)



Leon Wolford

IN MEMORIAM Raymond Nixon Miller

Raymond N. Miller passed away on May 15, 1993. He was born on January 17, 1915, in Ravenden Springs, Arkansas, the son of a Methodist minister. He was 78 at the time of his death. Raymond graduated from high school at Monette, Arkansas. On May 14, 1938, he married Lucille Richardson of Union, Mississippi. They celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on the eve of his death.

Raymond worked in Memphis, Tennessee, in various transportation management positions after serving 3 years in World War II in the Army Military Police.

Raymond and Lucille became members of the AIS approximately 40 years ago. He has served as RVP of Region 7 and was a past president of the Memphis Area Iris Society. He worked diligently on various committees when the National Conventions were held in Memphis. He and Lucille also contributed much effort in maintaining the Ketchum Memorial Iris Garden at Memphis Botanic Center. After his retirement approximately 6 years ago, he spent much of his time doing volunteer work at the Methodist-South Hospital in Memphis.

Raymond will be missed by all irisarians who knew him.

Evelyn Kuykendall

1993 JAPANESE IRIS AWARDS W. A. PAYNE MEDAL

ORIENTAL EYES (A. Vogt) 41 votes

runners-up

FRECKLED GEISHA (L. Reid) 39 votes

CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY (W. Marx) 37 votes

JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEwen) 29 votes

AWARD OF MERIT (JI)

VOTES

47 CASCADE CREST (T. Aitken)

38 KALAMAZOO (A. Hazzard)

25 EDGE OF FROST

(M. Dienstbach)

HONORABLE MENTION (JI)

19 GALA PERFORMANCE

(A. Miller)

14 EXUBERANT CHANTEY

(C. McEwen)

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Barbara Schmieder (Massachusetts)

Elmohr Iris Society
Peter and Lynn Markham
Region 20

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April 1, 1993 to September 30, 1993

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Tucson Area Iris Society (AZ)

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Laurel Bridgman (TX)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Butler
(AR)

Marvin Granger (LA)

Dean Lee (TX)

Joseph and Helene Mertzweiller
(LA)

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James P. McWhirter (CA)

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New Braunfels Iris Society (TX)

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James (Jim) Gibson (CA)

Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Kay and Keith Keppel (OR)

Ron Mullin (OK)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
(CA)

Clara Goula (LA)

Laurel Bridgman (TX)

Kay and Keith Keppel (OR)

Dean Lee (TX)

Dick Pettijohn (NE)

Leon and Edith Wolford (TX)

Melba Hamblen (UT)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

Anita Hannah (CA)

Descano Iris Garden Volunteers
(CA)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plank (CA)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
(CA)

Kathryn Heilman (PA)

Region 3, AIS

Frank Hutchings (CA)

Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

John Kearny (PA)

Region 3, AIS

Sue Keefe (TX)

Reblooming Iris Society

Grant D. Kegerise (PA)

Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Delaware Valley Iris Society

Richard and Eleanor Kegerise (PA)

Kay and Keith Keppel (OR)

James P. McWhirter (CA)

Dick Pettijohn (NE)

Region 3, AIS

Leon and Edith Wolford (TX)

Lucille Krchma (MO)

Dolores T. Denney (KS)

Ivorla Lavacot (TN)

Gus and Charlotte Sindt (MN)

Dorothea Marquart (PA)

Region 3, AIS

Raymond N. Miller (TN)

Mr. and Mrs. James G. Burch (AL)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Butler
(AR)

Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Kay and Keith Keppel (OR)

James P. McWhirter (CA)

Dick Pettijohn (NE)

Leon and Edith Wolford (TX)

Joseph Nyc (CA)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
(CA)

Jayne C. Overholser (IN)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Ann Probst (MO)

Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Mabel Robertson (NE)

Elkhorn Valley Iris Society (NE)

Walter G. Rupp (MN)

Gus and Charlotte Sindt (MN)

Mrs. Henry Schultz (AL)

Huntsville Chapter AIS (AL)

Lois Seeden (MN)

Gus and Charlotte Sindt (MN)

Lilly Belle Siegrist (KY)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Robert D. Steele (NM)

Lillian C. Gould (NM)

LaVina Steffensmeier (NE)

Elkhorn Valley Iris Society (NE)

Nancy W. Sword (KY)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Adolph J. Vogt (KY)

Mike and Ann Lowe (VA)

Jimmy Wage (OK)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

Lewis M. Willing (KY)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

Leon C. Wolford (TX)

Lois B. Arledge (TX)

Robert and Marina Barnett (TX)

Laurel Bridgman (TX)

Mr. and Mrs. James G. Burch (AL)

Marie Caillet (TX)

Mr. and Mrs. Victor L. Cleland (TX)

Hilda Crick (TN)

Ellen Demory (TX)

Guy B., Dorothy and Chris Ely
(TX)

Fannin County Iris Society (TX)

Mr. and Mrs. Ben E. Fry (TX)

Marvin Granger (LA)

Randolph and Milly Hall (TX)

Dwayne and Gladine Hayes (TX)

Marilyn Holloway (CA)

Dorothy C. Howard (OK)

Kay and Keith Keppel (OR)

James and Mary Law (TX)

W. Dean Lee (TX)

Joseph and Helene Mertzweiller
(LA)

Max and Louise Moore (TX)

Richard and Elizabeth Moore (TX)

Walter Moores (MS)

Ron Mullin (OK)

Dick Pettijohn (NE)

Rainbow Iris Society (TX)

John and Jeanette Reichle (TX)

Dr. and Mrs. Joe J. Simmons (TX)

Nina Weaver (TX)

THE 1993 SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES CONVENTION

Carol Warner (Maryland)

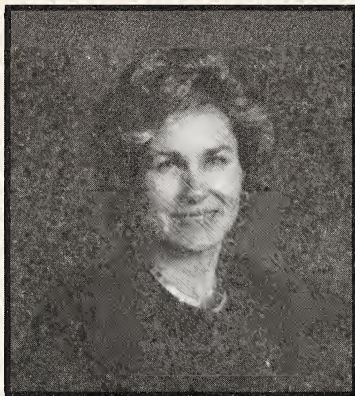
The Tidewater Iris Society hosted the 1993 convention for the Society for Japanese Irises in Virginia Beach, Virginia, June 3-5. Hospitality was the name of the game as Caryll Randall and all her committee members made sure everyone who attended had a wonderful time.

The show was beautiful! Staged on low tables, which had been specially built to display the Japanese irises at a good viewing height, were Japanese, Siberian, Louisiana and several species irises. Queen of the show went to KYOUMAI, a Japanese exhibited by D. J. Kelly. The show was in the glassed corridor leading to the meeting rooms and remained open throughout the convention. It was amazing to see how well the irises held up for three days with just a little deadheading.

Two days of garden tours were well planned and included the very impressive Norfolk Botanic Gardens and seven private gardens all within a close distance from our base hotel. The tours included the Kelly, Smoot, Randall, Dickerson, Dennis, Schwarz-Miller, and Harris gardens. The Japanese irises were not quite at peak bloom but there was definitely plenty to see. Great loud flashing thunderstorms both nights gave way to perfect garden viewing weather in the daytime. The irises were definitely sparkling clean and fresh after their nightly shower. Some new and some old varieties impressed me. ELECTRIC RAYS, JOYOUS CAVALIER, ENCHANTMENT, and GLITTER AND GLAMOUR all looked like winners in several gardens. A total of 106 guest irises had been received and were growing very well in the gardens. A couple of seedlings from Lorena Reid were well worth a long look, and 1555-2 by Innerst also looked very nice in a couple of gardens. Unfortunately, many of the guest plants were just covered with bloom stalks and buds but needed another few days before they could show their stuff.

As with most iris conventions, there was plenty of food in all of the gardens and a huge buffet lunch each day and, of course, an opening and closing banquet. Libby Dufresne presented a slide presentation the first evening on the Japanese Gardens at the New York Botanic Garden. Friday evening Carol Warner taught the judges' training session on exhibition and garden judging of Japanese irises. Saturday evening, Dr. William Ackerman gave a slide lecture showing how he plans his hybridizing and the effects of selfing and crossing to whites to explore the genetic possibilities of a plant. Slides showing the parents and children were quite fascinating.

A boutique featuring the work of Michiko Mellott and an exhibition of "Irises in Art" attracted some of us who like to shop and those who just enjoy looking at beautiful iris artifacts. Bus prizes donated by the Tidewater Iris Society were enjoyed both tour days. This convention was smaller in terms of number of people attending but proved to be outstanding in numbers and types of gardens visited and quality and quantity of iris bloom.



Youth Views

Jean E. Morris

IT'S ESSAY CONTEST TIME!

Every AIS youth member has the opportunity to participate in the Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest. The topic for 1994 is: "What Being an AIS Youth Member Means to Me." We'd like to hear what you have to say on this subject, so sound off in the form of an essay of 500 words or less. This year, mail your essay by March 15th, to Catherine Long Gates, 3033 Jefferson, Boulder, CO 80302. The prize for the contest winner will be \$100 cash!

This contest is administered by the AIS Foundation and is made possible by a donation from Mrs. Robert Thrum of Lansing, Michigan, as a memorial to her parents, Jay and Marian Ackerman.

We'd like to see AIS youths of all ages participate this year as the topic is suitable for everyone. So write down a few ideas to serve as an overview, then on another piece of paper, develop your essay by writing a paragraph about each idea. Add a short introduction at the beginning and a conclusion at the end and "Presto"—an essay! Have an adult check your spelling, if you like, and then write or type a final copy to send in for the contest. And start planning how to spend \$100 as you could be the lucky winner. Get started and good luck to all!

REMINDER—Nominations for the AIS Youth Achievement Award Contest are due January 31, 1994, so please mail them as soon as possible to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Refer to the October, 1993 *AIS Bulletin* for details. There are many AIS youths who are deserving, so do your part and write a nomination. Include the name and age of the youth along with his or her activities, accomplishments and abilities. Feel free to add those qualities which make your nominee special. If possible, encourage others in your region to nominate your youth also, as multiple nominations are allowed. Every RVP and every Regional Youth Chairman should, each year, review their own region's AIS youths and consider writing a nomination. This is a wonderful way to encourage our young irisarians. So invest in the future and nominate an AIS youth right away. A big thank you is in order to all who help our American Iris Society youth members.

FACTS, NOT FEAR

Adele Lawyer (California)

As a plant lover, it seems illogical to me that applying a chemical to preserve the health of a plant is considered by many people to be a sin against nature, whereas using such means to heal the ills of human beings and animals is seen as an act of humanity.

The public's fear of pesticides and chemicals is widespread in the United States these days. This subject is addressed by Philip Abelson, Editor of Engineering and Applied Science for the magazine, *Science*, a weekly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In an editorial, (*Science*, July 23, 1993), titled, "Toxic Terror; Phantom Risks", he begins: "The public has long been subjected to a one-sided portrayal of risks of environmental hazards, particularly industrial chemicals. Only a few individuals have attempted to bring balance into the picture. They have faced a self serving, formidable de facto alliance of media, well-heeled environmental organizations, federal regulators, and the Plaintiffs' bar."

In our garden we use pesticides for the control of leaf spot and rust on tall bearded irises and for rust and crown rot on Pacificas. We apply Roundup to control weeds. We have also fumigated to renew soil which is exhausted through monoculture. But we don't apply any of these treatments unless control is necessary. I do not enjoy preparing for pesticide application, carrying the heavy sprayer, and pumping it up many times as I walk the rows. Just the thought of washing the sprayer afterwards weakens my resolve. I wait awhile when aphids appear, even in abundance. If the weather turns hot, a fungus will infect and destroy them without my help. If leaf spot is minimal, it may disappear with drier weather along with the senescent outside leaves. But none of these procrastinations are due to fear of danger from the use of pesticides.

Both pesticides and pharmaceuticals are tested exhaustively over a period of years for effectiveness and for side effects, which, in the case of pesticides, (fungicides, insecticides, herbicides), includes the presence and persistence of residuals in the breakdown products which might contaminate the soil or ground water. Toxicity studies are conducted for a full series of potential effects such as cancer and birth defects to see if any chemical proposed for use satisfies limits established by the World Health Organization and/or the Environmental Protection Agency. To further insure public safety, pesticide manufacturers specify application procedures which will rule out any possible risk to the consumer. In addition, medical remedies for possible symptoms are included on pesticide labels. I have confidence that we are protected to the extreme from any threat to our well being.

Ever since 1906 when the first Federal Food and Drug law, concerned with contamination in food products intended for export was enacted, pesticide regulations have corrected serious abuses which occurred in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Regulations have expanded and grown since then, in step with the

available science. These regulations now receive more media attention than at any time in the past. The frequency of litigation has also increased along with insurance rates for pharmaceutical and pesticide manufacturers, for physicians, and for pesticide applicators. Personal responsibility for our actions is no longer a way of life in this country.

I am grateful that scientists have conducted and continue to conduct research which leads to a better understanding of pesticides and other chemicals. Their efforts resulted in significant advances in plant productivity and public health, and contribute largely to the fact that a person born in 1940, the "golden era" of pesticide use, had a life expectancy of 15.6 years longer than a person born in 1900. Life expectancy has, in fact, risen during every decade in the 20th century.¹ Although a few pesticides have been found to form tumors in laboratory animals when fed at high levels, there is no scientific evidence to link human cancer with the residues of pesticides.

According to the American Cancer Society, cancer rates have not increased in recent years except for lung cancer, (due to smoking), and skin cancer, (attributed to sun exposure).² Somehow, however, scare tactics, principally about cancer, continue to bombard us.

If you are interested in reading the two books listed in *Science*, the book, *Toxic Terror*, cites many of the publications and statements regarding predictions of risks to public health and even survival which lack validity. This book reports that even reputable publications such as *Time*, *Life*, *Newsweek*, and *The New York Times* have been guilty of exaggerated dire predictions. *Toxic Terror, The Truth Behind the Cancer Scares*, E. M. Whelan (Prometheus Books, Buffalo, NY. ed. 2, 1993).

Phanton Risks focuses on some of the chemicals with mythical hazards such as Alar and Bendectin, and exaggerated dangers as with PCBs. Some chapters describe litigation on health risk issues and the juries who have been conditioned by the media, rather than by scientific accuracy. *Phanton Risks: Scientific Inference and the Law* (MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 1993). K. R. Foster, D. E. Bernstein, P. W. Huber, Eds.

Put fear in perspective. Driving a car is dangerous, but you have sense enough to use a seat belt, drive when sober, be sure you have functioning brakes, and stop at stop lights. For pain and fever, you take 2 aspirins, but not a whole bottle. When you wonder whether you should apply a pesticide to control a garden problem that has not responded to prayer, don't solicit advice from the man on the street or a prominent movie star, read the label carefully and use common sense. Then, if you still have questions, take them to your closest County Agricultural Agent. They are there to serve you, and they have the facts.

¹ 1988 *Encyclopedia Britannica Book of the Year*.

² *Produce and Pesticides*, 1989 (Booklet), Food Marketing Institute (FMI), Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

THE SIBERIAN IRIS CONVENTION

Anna Mae Miller (Michigan)

It was a great surprise in August-October 1990 when the guests for the first Siberian Convention arrived to find that there were 36 hybridizers (including 3 from Germany, 2 from Japan and 1 from England). They sent 146 named varieties, 118 numbered seedlings and included *I. versicolors*, *I. setosas*, Calsibes, and 40 chromosome Siberians. We had a great variety of irises all the way from species types to the latest developments in the newest forms, colors and other variations. The Siberians are very hardy plants and in three years made very lovely clumps.

On auction night there were 620 rhizomes sold to 80 bidders. This made for a worrisome summer trying to figure out the logistics of how to dig in 5 different gardens separated by over 80 miles. After much pondering and suffering with "brain pain" the lists were made, the labels made, the boxes ordered, and the task completed.

THE SIBERIAN IRIS ORGY IN LANSING

Dave Niswonger (Missouri)

The dictionary says that an orgy is an excessive indulgence in an activity—but, how could we help it with perfect weather and the Siberian irises in perfect, full, peak bloom and 185 irisarians from around the world in attendance? We saw irises by day, and at night we heard Siberian iris specialists such as Dr. Tomas Tamberg from Germany, Mr. Ho Shidara and Mr. Hiroshi Shimizu from Japan and Julius Wadekamper from the States as well as others who showed slides of their most recent creations. What a weekend it was!

The Convention was hosted by the IRIS CONNOISSEURS OF MICHIGAN, and not an item was overlooked to assure the well being and totally grand experience of seeing more Siberian iris varieties in bloom than any other place in the world. There were four gardens on tour plus the Michigan State University Horticultural Gardens.

THE MILLER GARDEN

The sun was just coming up on a bright sunny day when we reached the garden of Ronald and Anna Mae Miller in the Kalamazoo area. There were hundreds of seedlings of Anna Mae's plus many guests from other hybridizers. Some of the varieties that caught my eye are as follows:

BRIDAL JIG (Schafer/Sachs '93) is a wide ruffled white of pleasing proportions.
SPRINKLES (Bauer/Coble) is a very nice pink with nice flared form.
MESA PEARL (Bauer/Coble) a pale pink with lighter standards and flared form.

AQUA WHISPERS (Miller '88) has some pink infusion that makes it very appealing.

SAILOR'S FANCY (Schafer/Sachs '91) has light blue stands and style arms that provide a nice contrast to the very wide violet blue falls.

ILLINI VALOR (Varner '93) has a very deep red violet color that is set off by lighter pinkish style arms with nice form and many stalks.

JEWELLED CROWN (Hollingworth '87) winner of the Morgan-Wood Medal in 1993 was absolutely stunning with its red violet color and showy white hafts. This is one that I feel everyone should grow.

RILL (Bellagamba '91) is a deep blue with very contrasty blue-white crests and one of my favorites in my own garden.

ROARING JELLY (Schafer/Sachs '92) Oh my! What a color! A deep pinkish rose might come close to describing this one. This is one of several that represented new colors in Siberians to me. The color range is truly expanding in the class.

CORONATION ANTHEM (Hollingworth '90) is a nicely formed medium blue with a white spot around the hafts. Bob has several of this type in his seedling patch that are really attractive, and I expect to see several more of this type being introduced.

FOUR WINDS (Stahly '91) is one of my favorite blues. It is a medium to light blue and the closest to being true blue of any iris I know.

ENSATA GARDENS of Bob Bauer and John Coble

Ensata Gardens has a very beautiful setting with a two-story brick farm house built in the 1860s and an old barn surrounded by old trees, both deciduous and conifer. Hostas of all types abound everywhere. So there's shade and sun and plenty of room to grow most anything. It's a very pleasant place where one can relax and enjoy the beauty.

This is the garden where I got my first glimpse of Bob Hollingworth's OVER IN GLORYLAND. It's a 1993 introduction and was already sold out which I didn't realize until that night at the auction when there was one left that was going for over one hundred dollars. It's a wide dark blue with a white spot at the hafts. It has great vigor and stands up nicely. I predict that this will be another one like JEWELLED CROWN that everyone eventually will want to get. Several that I mentioned above were again growing nicely here. In addition, there was LEE'S BLUE (Bauer/Coble) that really has wide round falls that are medium blue with a small white spot around the hafts. REPRISE (Warburton '87) was putting on quite a show with its nice semi-flared bluish red-violet flowers. The commercial planting was a mass of color and, of course, had other types of beardless irises besides Siberians.

THE MAYNARD GARDEN

Virginia Maynard had a pleasing backyard garden in the country. Besides varieties already mentioned, we were treated to the beautiful yellow amoenas of Marlene Ahlburg of Germany. They were WELFENSCHATZ and WELFENPRINCE which I felt were truly advancements in this color class. It appeared that others felt that way too when the bidding at the auction took place that night. Oh yes, here was another of those luscious colors that makes my heart rate speed

up, FROSTED CRANBERRY, a '91 introduction of Anna Mae Miller's. Cranberry pretty well describes the color. I don't know how I missed this at Anna Mae's house, but it is one of those new colors (to me) that people will salivate over.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY HORTICULTURAL GARDEN

Here again, we were treated with huge clumps of WELFENSCHATZ and WELFENPRINCE. They really took my eye. And another of those cranberry colors showed up in the form of CHEERY LYN (Miller '91). This one may be a little lighter in color than FROSTED CRANBERRY, but it has a more flared form than FC. It is a darker cranberry around the hafts, and the standards are a lighter color than the falls. Calvin Helsley from Missouri had two varieties that attracted my attention. They were WAR MARCH and MAGENTA MOMENT. I would describe them as red violet with WAR MARCH being darker. Of course, they had great form and vigor. Hal Stahly's FOUR WINDS was looking good here too. Katherine Steele's LEGACY OF LOVE is another one of those colors that will turn one's head. It's a light pink with maybe some lavender, but not much, and a darker pink spot near the hafts and semi-flared form. While here we enjoyed the beautiful landscaping with perennial beds of many sorts.

THE HOLLINGWORTH GARDEN

Here were large spacious grounds that supported the plantings of, perhaps, a thousand plants or more. Seedling and guest beds were in front of their beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright designed home. There was one last first generation hybrid blooming from *I. typhifolia* which I thought was unusual to be blooming that late since *I. typhifolia* blooms for me with the Standard dwarf bearded irises. The foliage was wider, not as grass-like as *I. typhifolia* nor as twisted. The bloom was a deeper violet than the clone that I grew. The falls were not as long and the hafts were a bit wider. The rest of the sibs had finished blooming, so this line of breeding should produce some earlier blooming hybrids.

It was good to see some of Currier McEwen's tetraploids blooming here. I really like his yellow amoena (87/43(4)). Tomas Tamberg of Germany had some of his varieties blooming here which were not just pure Siberian hybrids but hybrids coming from *I. setosa*. PAUSBACH was a good example of his Sibtosas. It is a very vigorous blue with a white spot in the center of the haft area. We also got to see some of the varieties coming from Japan. There are some interesting pinks coming from that direction.

In addition to the varieties already mentioned, I liked ISABELLE (Warburton '91) which is a white with green tones. HARPSWELL VELVET is a tetraploid of Currier's. It is a 1991 introduction and a large, wide, deep blue purple with a small spot at the haft. I hesitate to mention seedlings, but just so irisarians will know that there are some great advancements coming forth, I will mention two seedlings from Bob Hollingworth. Sdlg. 88VB4 is a very ruffled wide white but not only in the falls, the standards are wide and ruffled too. Many judges are ogling Sdlg. 92 3A 33 which is a wide, pleasant medium to light blue with a pronounced white area in the center of the falls. There were many other seedlings with a shocking

blue crest on red violet or purple which made a very different looking Siberian from what we are used to seeing.

The Hollingworth Garden was the last garden to visit. I suppose that if the eyes have seen all they can endure and the brain has absorbed all it can, you have "an excessive indulgence in an activity," you have an orgy. It was truly a delightful weekend.

WE ENJOYED PERFECTION

Donna Aldridge (Missouri)

Perfection! Breathtaking! Amazing! Those were some of the more frequently used words to describe the first-ever National Siberian Iris Convention headquartered in East Lansing, Michigan, June 11-13, 1993. We were blessed with absolute peak bloom. The weather was delightful and the gardens remarkable. The Iris Connoisseurs of Michigan were marvelous hosts.

Those of us who flew in were met at the Lansing airport—a much appreciated consideration. The much anticipated opportunity to meet and visit with Siberian iris enthusiasts and top experts from half of the United States, plus Canada, England, Germany and Japan was a memorable texture woven throughout the entire event.

The Convention officially began Friday evening with a reception followed by a presentation by Dr. Tomas Tamberg of Germany. He spoke on his recent work with Siberians and the interspecies crosses with beardless irises for which he is renowned. We were further treated to presentations from Mr. Ho Shidara (well-known for his multi-falled Siberians) and Mr. Hiroshi Shimizu (also well-known for his multi-falled Siberians) about Siberian irises in their native Japan. Several others showed selected slides and finished the evening with some interesting exchange of ideas and information.

The first tour garden Saturday morning took us to the recently developed horticultural grounds of Michigan State University. After weaving through lovely perennial beds of the new MSU Horticultural Gardens, we came upon a large planting of Siberian guests. We thought we were in heaven and didn't realize this was just an "appetizer." This was the first opportunity to see all of Calvin Helsley's new velvety black reds and black purples together. Striking among them were **DRAMATIC PRELUDE** (92), **SEA VOYAGE**, **WAR MARCH** and **WINGS OF NIGHT** to name a few. Hal Stahly's delicate pale yellow **MOON SILK** (91) and his blue **FOUR WINDS** (91) were stately and elegant.

Hollingworth, Jim Copeland, Bauer-Coble and others tempted us with a long list of exciting seedlings. Bauer-Coble's **LEE'S BLUE** and **SPRINKLES** stole many hearts, the latter a well-named white with lavender accents. **FAIRY FINGERS** (91), from the Willotts, is a lithe little profusion of palest yellow petals. Ken Waite's medium violets were blooming in nice clumps.

After never-enough-time we were ushered back onto the buses and whisked 80 miles south-southwest to Kalamazoo. When we neared Anna Mae and Ron

Miller's Old Douglas Road Perennial Garden we were on a tree-lined, winding road high above the large garden field beside their home. As we reached a clearing, a gasp of amazement rang out through the bus as we caught the first spectacular view of a solid ocean of Siberian iris bloom below us. Probably one of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. A veritable frothy mass of luscious pinks, violets, blues, whites and magenta wines. Spilling out of the bus, we made for the field to immerse ourselves in this magic concoction of colors. From a visit to Anna Mae and Ron's the year before, I remembered Knoepfadel's outstanding MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE (92), a dark wine velvet *I. versicolor* electrified with white signals and Steve Varner's exotic GREEN EYED QUEEN (91) with its striking double pattern on raspberry rose. I was glad to be able to see Sarah Tiffney's seedlings from HOLDEN CLOUGH. Of course, Anna Mae's Siberians were showing off gloriously. PURPLE SAND (91) with its beautifully decorated white ground, CHEERY LYN (91) with its cheery, cherry pink tones, FROSTED CRANBERRY (91) and its unusual color and the exquisite form of LIBERTY HILLS (89) to name only a few. Jim Ennenga's RASPBERRY BLUES (88) really delivered on its namesakes. Bob Hollingworth's tetraploid dark JEWELLED CROWN (87) and many of his seedlings were blooming well.

Coral Poppies (*P. rupifragum*), Lupines, Digitalis 'Excelsior', Oriental Poppies, (May Curtis, Arab Chief) and tall bearded irises accented the cool, lush colors of the Siberians. The many varieties of evergreens and other trees planted generously around the garden field made the perfect backdrop for the irises. The vast perennial beds surrounding the house were an extra treat with bright colored blooms and lush hosta foliage weaving in and out of sun and shady spots. A beautiful setting; one "painting" after another in my mind's eye.

We were carried off from one bit of paradise into another: Bob Bauer and John Coble's Ensata Gardens some twenty minutes away. As beautiful as this was during the '92 Japanese Iris Convention, it was even lovelier this year, I believe.

Again, the setting was one beautiful picture after another. More huge clumps of hostas nestled in the shade of a remarkable collection of trees, the restored Victorian house and classic weathered barn, ponds, landscaped plantings as well as a field full of Siberians and other beardless irises. ROARING JELLY (92) from Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks was again utterly captivating in its sharply contrasting deep velvet wine and white. Their BRIDAL JIG (93) is a new white with a very unique form. The deep fluting in the falls magnifies in amplitude as it reaches the center where the fluting is extremely pronounced. DEVIL'S DREAM (90) is a rich, dark red and SAILOR'S FANCY (91) has wide flaring mid blue falls with lighter standards, both from Schafer-Sacks. The *I. versicolors*, BETWEEN THE LINES (91) with fine deep blue lines on white and LITTLE RHYME (91), are lovely as are Bee Warburton's CANDYSTRIPER (91), fine pink-rose lines on white and PARTY LINE (88). Her SPRINGS BROOK (88) Siberian is a favorite for its exceptional form and arresting mid-deep blue color, and ISABELLE (89) is a classic white. REPRISE (87) has been known to repeat its clear blue violet blooms.

One final garden lay in store for us this day as we neared Lansing. We were returned to "the real world" and a wonderful "regular" yard garden (like most of us have) at the home of Virginia Maynard in Dimondale. The large backyard beds

were filled with many bearded and beardless irises, peonies and tall apricot lupines which were really showing off for us. However, stealing the show was Hollingworth's OVER IN GLORYLAND (93) deeply fluted ruffles on broad velvet purple falls, large pale gold patterned signals—and eventually, the popularity poll winner hands down. Kevin Morley mentioned that from across the garden he saw an enticing ruffly modern cultivar and went dashing off to see what this brand new offering might be. McEwen's RUFFLED VELVET (79) just proves how well really fine flowers carry on through the years. HUBBARD (McEwen 82) is another one that stands up well against the very best of the newest. TEMPER TANTRUM (86) is a McGarvey wine-red with a bright blue haze area and is still a wonderful iris. Warner's SHAKER'S PRAYER (90) was in full celebration, showing how exciting and dramatic a species-like form can be.

Saturday evening, Julius Wadekamper shared with us his experiences in growing Siberians on a large commercial scale. And then—quite an auction!

Sunday dawned with a short optional visit to Beal Botanic Gardens nearby—one of the oldest in the U.S. After breakfast we were off to Bob and Judy Hollingworth's Windwood Springs Garden. Where to even begin? Two large—no, huge—seedling beds greeted us full of one wonder after another. Beyond, a third bed lay and ringing one end was a semi-circle band of guest beds.

Hollingworth's CORONATION ANTHEM (90), JEWELLED CROWN, LADY VANESSA (86), SHALL WE DANCE (92), and SWEET SURRENDER (92) were just breathtaking. SIMPLE GIFTS is a departure from the dark super ruffles. Well named, it is a simple tailored white, quite broad and rich in substance with a unique and striking presence. McEwen's diminutive SASSY KOOMA might be described in similar fashion. HARPSWELL SNOWBURST (91) with its richly ruffled standards and white rimmed fall and HARPSWELL VELVET are worthy additions to the popular series.

Others worthy of mention are:

Art Cronin's LORENA CRONIN, a rather beguiling species-like form with the falls almost entirely occupied with the large white signal area. The purple standards and style arms are repeated in the dramatic veining that reaches out across the white signal to consolidate in a purple edge.

Tamburg's PAUSBACH SIBTOSA has a gorgeous, airy lavender form with broad, eloquent very sculptured round falls, very floriferous. His Sibcolor hybrid was interesting in purple with a gold signal. Jennifer Hewitt of England had several Siberians among the guests. There were a couple with pink breeding and were performing very well.

Shidara's Siberians with 6-plus falls bloomed for us. KOKU is a dark blue with twelve falls! RANMAN has six falls and ten standards in pale mid pink. KITA-NO-SEIZA is dark blue with signals on six falls. HARESUGATA is pink and has six falls. I like this variety in form and find them attractive. Some gardeners maintain their full allegiance to the classic style.

Shimizu's Siberians display a delicacy and sensitive reserve. Ahlberg's WEL-FENSCHATZ is a pale yellow with fine form. Bellagamba's RILL is an elegant rich blue.

Cooper's LINDA MARY (90) is a ruffled purple violet with a white halo and blue flushed area.

Bloomtime was a bit early for Reid's 40 chromosome Siberians and Cal-Sibes, unfortunately, because the visitors missed out on seeing some of the more exciting and beautiful new Siberian creations.

One of the most intriguing new color patterns to me was Shafer/Sacks S 86-19-1 which seemed to have two entirely different mottled, textured colors occurring concurrently; one in soft pinks, the other in pale blues, independent, but intermingling well for a very unusual lavender effect. Aqua style arms and more raspberry coloring were in the falls. Lovely. VICKI ANN (Warburton 90) is a fresh light blue with some pale purple wisping out from the signal area and with aqua white style arms. Four groups were formed for one hour of judges' training. We then moved to the backyard of the Hollingworth's very unique home with its occidental conic peaks designed by the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.

A last run through the garden convinced me that it would take a week to see everything. It was wonderfully overwhelming!

POPULARITY POLL—SIBERIAN IRIS CONVENTION 1993

OVER IN GLORYLAND	Hollingworth	62
JEWELLED CROWN	Hollingworth	41
LEE'S BLUE	Bauer-Coble	40
CORONATION ANTHEM	Hollingworth	38
MOON SILK	Stahly	32
SPRINKLES	Bauer-Coble	32
LITTLE PAPOOSE	Varner	32
WELFENSCHATZ	Ahlberg	27
CHEERY LYN	A. Miller	26
ROARING JELLY	Schafer-Sacks	25
SIMPLE GIFTS	Hollingworth	25
MABEL CODAY	Helsley	23
FROSTED CRANBERRY	A. Miller	21
REPRISE	Warburton	21
SPRINGS BROOK	Warburton	21
WINGS OF NIGHT	Helsley	20
AQUA WHISPERS	A. Miller	19
MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE	Knoepnadel	19
BRIDAL JIG	Schafer-Sacks	16
LADY VANESSA	Hollingworth	16
HARPSWELL VELVET	McEwen	16
ILLINI DAME	Varner	16
SAILOR'S FANCY	Schafer-Sacks	16

BEST SEEDLING

S 86-8-2	Schafer-Sacks	20
Lee's Blue	Bauer-Coble	9
Simple Gifts	Hollingworth	6
Welfenschatz	Ahlberg	5

One hundred twelve ballots were cast from 185 attendees.

SOME NOTES ON THE GIBSON PLICATAS

Keith Keppel (Oregon)

When Jim Gibson put away his tweezers in 1985, he had completed fifty springs of iris hybridizing, a record rarely achieved. Even more remarkable is the legacy of outstanding and innovative iris cultivars he left behind. Although he worked to some extent with virtually every color group of tall bearded, it is his work with plicatas which gained him the most fame.

Every serious student of iris hybridizing should study this man and his methods to understand what made his breeding program so successful, as there is much to be learned. Certainly he had tenacity; how many people could follow the same rainbow for half a century and not get discouraged or bored or sidetracked? Anyone who saw his gardens, and saw him working in them, would agree that he had the capacity for hard work—and was not afraid of it. His breeding records were meticulous, and with very few exceptions make it easy to trace Gibson parentages to the very beginning of his work.

When he began making iris crosses in 1936, he recorded the successful crosses in his stud book in numerical sequence, starting with Cross 1 (RAMESSES X CLARIDAD) and ending with Cross 229 (involved seedlings) in 1948. Any selection from a cross was given a letter designation. For instance, the first selection from Cross 82 (TIFFANY X MADAME LOUIS AUREAU) was designated as seedling 82A. This seedling was later registered and introduced as GIBSON GIRL and appears throughout his later work. (Note: the 1949 *Check List* gives the parentage in the reverse order, with TIFFANY as pollen, rather than pod parent.)

Beginning in 1949, he changed his numbering system to accommodate the ever-increasing number of crosses. Each year the crosses were numbered consecutively, starting over at the number 1. Following a hyphen, the year designation was added (the last digit of the year, only). Finally, the seedling selection was added at the end, in keeping with his previous system. Thus TAHOLAH, seedling selection 19-9D, was the fourth (D) seedling chosen from the nineteenth cross recorded in the stud book (145A X FIRECRACKER) in the year 1949. (There is one obvious flaw to this numbering system, and that is the repetition of numbers every decade. Cross 19-9 could represent the nineteenth cross recorded in 1949, 1959, 1969, or 1979. When checking numbers in the books, it is imperative to watch time frames closely.)

As seedling pedigrees became even more complicated, the system was refined further. Beginning in 1955, crosses were no longer recorded in random order, but were grouped by color class or breeding goal. The following year, abbreviations were added to designate the grouping: P = plicata, PL = plicata lace, PT = plicata from Toholah lines, PF = plicata with tangerine factor ("plicata flamingo"), PB1 = plicata blue, PCh = plicata chocolate, LF = lace flamingo, etc. This "shorthand" enabled him to keep goals and breeding lines in mind without having to chart out involved pedigrees.

In the beginning his crosses were, of course, made with named varieties. A great many named varieties, I might add. But as Jim began selecting out seedlings, certain varieties immediately surfaced as cornerstones to the Gibson Plicata breeding program. These key elements are as follows:

TIFFANY (Hans Sass '38). Bronzy rose markings on creamy yellow ground. Form waved, lightly ruffled, with falls that tended to tuck under and pinch together at the tips. Hardy and vigorous.

SIEGFRIED (Hans Sass '36). Slightly fluted pale yellow blossoms, lightly marked with brownish dotting and lining. Branches long but not plentiful, stems weak for the size of flower, but it was immensely popular as the first tall, big-flowered yellow ground plicata.

ORLOFF (Hans Sass '37). Cream ground color, heavily plicata-dotted and edged reddish brown. Good bloomer, good grower.

FIRECRACKER (Hall '43). Short, but the best brilliant red plicata of that time, from the master of flamingo pink breeding! But this burgundy red on yellow plicata was straight out of Sass lines, being from ORLOFF X ELSA SASS. The "lemon ice" ELSA SASS, a "plicata recessive" introduced by Hans Sass in 1939, was from TIFFANY X ORLOFF.

MADAME LOUIS AUREAU (Cayeux '34). Winner of the 1934 French Dykes Medal. An iris ahead of its time, it was somewhat short, but with well-formed, somewhat blocky flowers. Silvery white ground with an almost overall washing and sanding of rosy heliotrope.

"MITCHELL BROWN SEEDLING". In 1940 Gibson visited the Berkeley garden of Prof. Sydney Mitchell. He admired an odd coppery to reddish-brown seedling and was given an anther of pollen. There is no record of any seedling number or parentage to this seedling, and in later discussions with Jim, he did not seem absolutely certain that it was a Mitchell seedling. Probably, but it could have been a seedling from someone else Mitchell was growing. This is the one major unknown factor, pedigree-wise, in the Gibson Plicata line.

SACRAMENTO (Mohr-Mitchell '29). Reddish violet on ivory white ground. Used because it was the only plicata left in bloom when Jim returned to his Porterville garden with the stamen of pollen given by Mitchell. Cross 39 is recorded in the stud book as SACRAMENTO X Mitchell gift stamen.

Once the plicata line had been established and intercrossed for a few generations, Jim rarely brought in new varieties except to add specific factors missing in the line. He once said that form had been "fixed," and when he outcrossed to someone else's work, he lost the form he had achieved. The family tree of KILT LILT shows how closely he adhered to his own line. If all the branches of the tree were extended to the original irises used to start the line, you would find FIRECRACKER at least 11 times, SACRAMENTO and the Mitchell brown 21 times each, MADAME LOUIS AUREAU 52 times, SIEGFRIED twenty, and TIFFANY and ORLOFF (counting the times they appear behind FIRECRACKER also), 62 and 30 times respectively.

Remontant buffs should also take note of the 31 appearances of GIBSON GIRL, still grown by some simply for its tendency to rebloom. It is hardly surprising, then, that so many Gibson irises throw off-season bloom, at least in milder climates. (At one time, when Cooley's Gardens was introducing the earlier

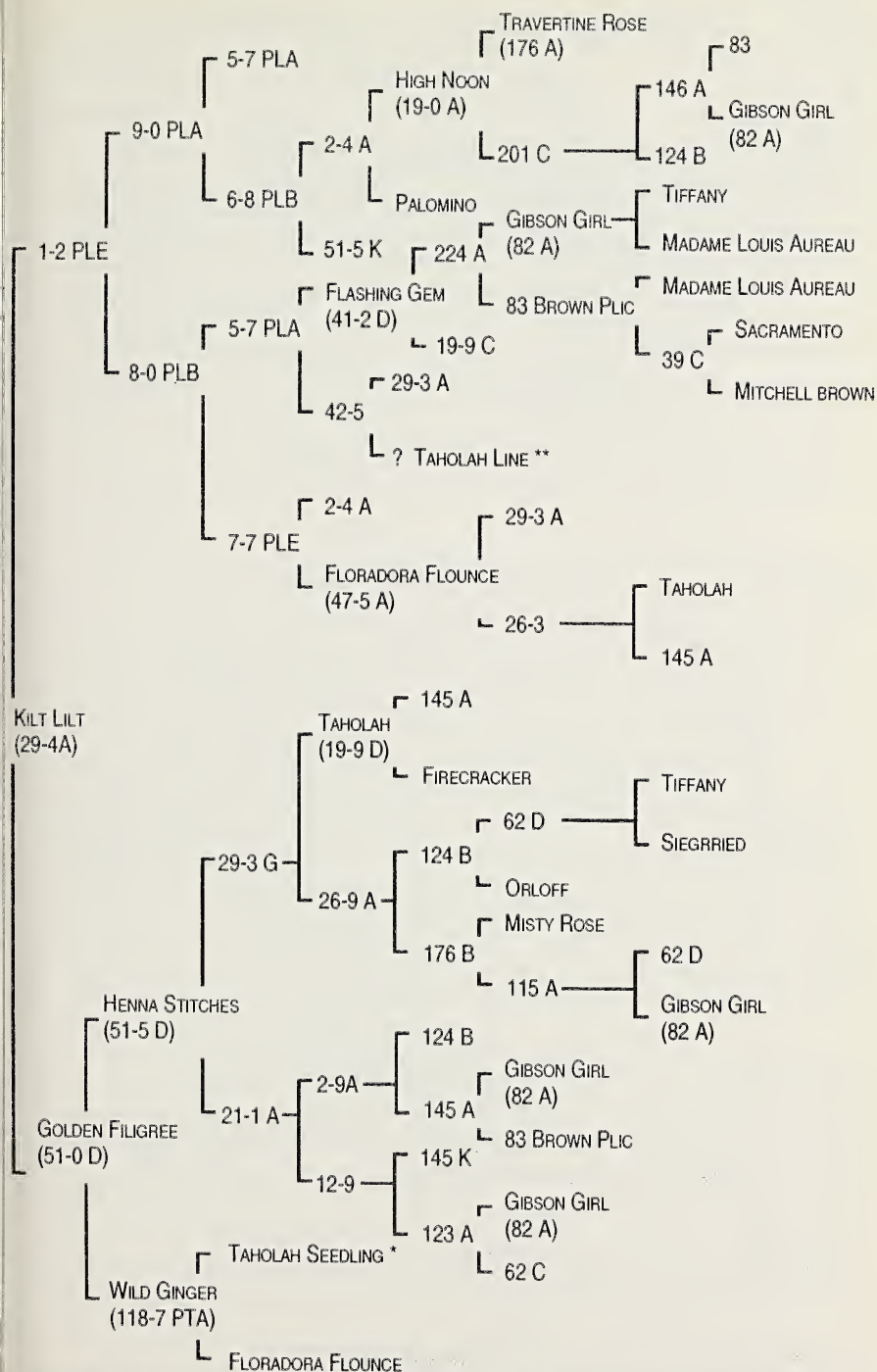
Gibson varieties, Rholin Cooley commented that off-season bloom did not fit in well with commercial summer/fall shipments, so Jim made a conscious effort at that point to purge his seedling selections of all those which rebloomed!)

Gibson had many projects among the plicatas. Probably the most dramatic line was the one which produced tangerine-bearded plicatas. Through the 1950's, "pink plicatas" were few and far between. No one had a "line" of them going . . . they just happened now and again, accidental segregates from flamingo pink lines for the greater part. With Gibson's introduction of APRIL MELODY in 1967, things began to change, and for the next twenty years an amazing array of tangerine-bearded plics appeared. At first it was lavender pink markings on white or ivory ground, then the markings became pinker . . . and oranger on some. Ground colors began taking on tones never before seen in plicatas, as the tangerine factor worked on the yellow pigments to convert them into all manner of new plicata ground colors. In the beginning it was pinkish cream to biscuit to cheesy buff, then soft salmon and pastel pink, becoming stronger and brighter and more startling as the years went by. His cross 65-4 (made in 1974) was a classic, producing QUEEN IN CALICO and COLUMBIA THE GEM, exquisitely ruffled, fancily and whimsically marked in pinkish rose to reddish violet; the non-tangerine olive maroon RUSTIC DANCE; and two lesser sisters, RED LIGHTNING and PROVOCATIVE LADY. The first three have proven to be extraordinary parents.

To get his tangerine line, Gibson maintained the same approach: use Gibson plic seedlings heavily and add new blood sparingly. BLUE RIM and ROCOCO, added to the blue plic line, crept in as the plic projects intermingled; BLUE RIM was probably chosen for its clarity of color, and ROCOCO was the most heavily ruffled plicata at the time of its introduction. HAPPY BIRTHDAY was the premier pink of its day, top on the Popularity Poll even if it could not muster enough votes to win the Dykes Medal. BALLERINA was also pink and another source of the tangerine beard factor, but it had the added asset of good ruffling and the most sheer class of any of the Hall pinks of that era. PALOMINO contributed both the tangerine factor and an approach toward orange tones. NEW ADVENTURE was from Tell Muhlestein, a small-flowered raspberry pink to reddish violet plicata. Strongly marked, it had a good tangerine beard. Height was tall and flower size only medium, making it look rather awkward, but the color was striking. The "Bro. Charles" notation probably refers to a heavily laced seedling from Bro. Charles Reckamp, to add lace to the mix.

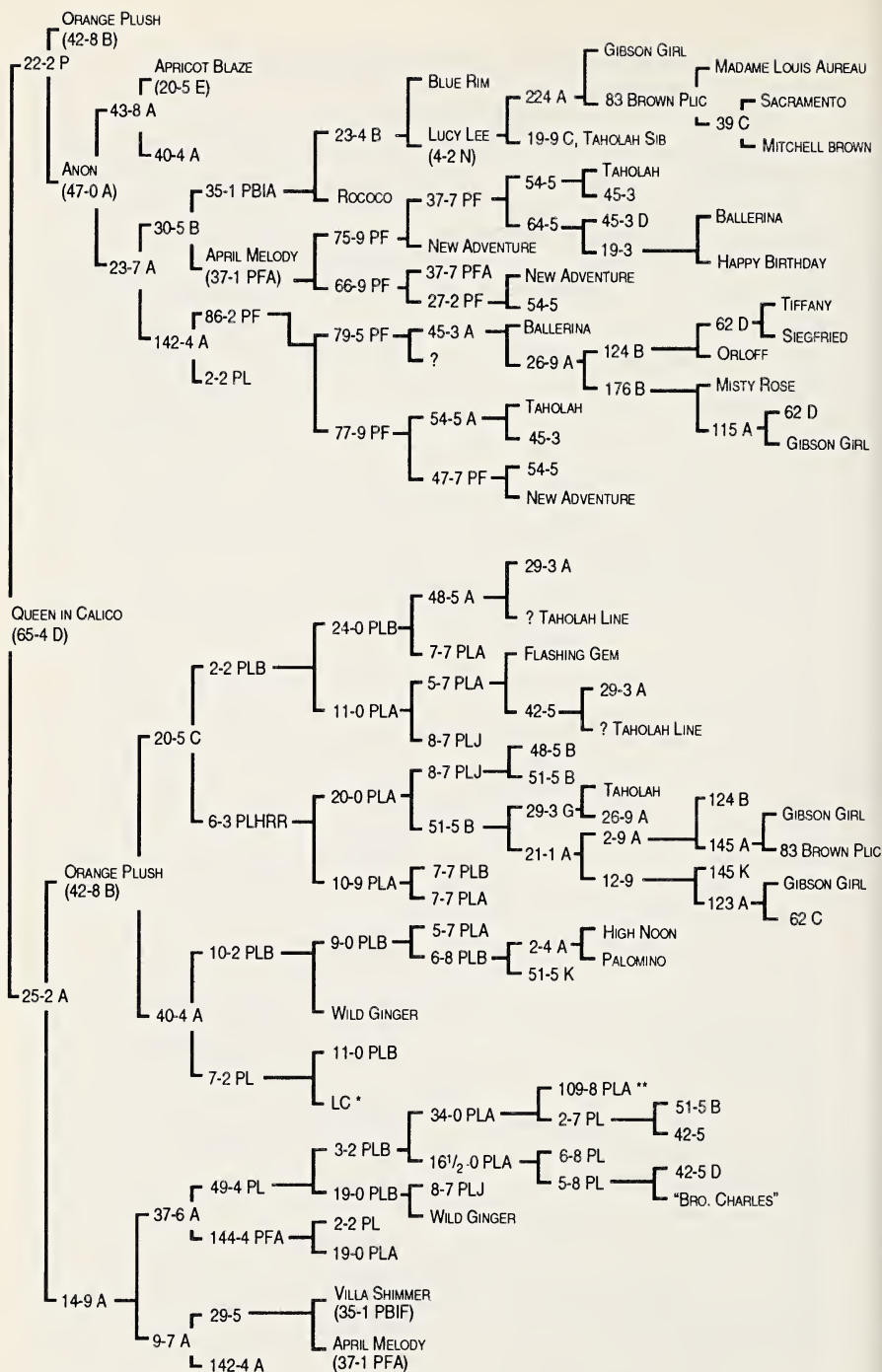
Other plicata projects included plics with heavy lace, black and white plics, and brown plics. The basic plan of action always remained the same: take the well-established plicata line, add just a few new varieties to add new genes, and continue selecting. In the brown plic line, Jim wanted a true dark chocolate brown, and he was successful; however, the colors were dead and had very little garden value. Those further from the original goal, the more coppery, brighter browns, were the better garden choice. Sometimes when we get what we think we want, we find we don't really want it. So no one is perfect. But in breeding plicata-patterned irises, Jim Gibson certainly approached perfection.

The author wishes to thank Lorna Gibson Etter for making her father's breeding records available for research.



* The 1969 Check List shows TAHOLAH as the pod parent of WILD GINGER. However, the stud books show it as a TAHOLAH seedling of unknown parentage.

** Unknown parentage, but with the notation T₂ indicating it was from the TAHOLAH plic breeding line.



* No explanation of meaning for LC — may simply indicate a lost chord, with no parentage given.

** Stud book lists cross as parentage unknown. However, another page gives this number with the pedigree identical to cross 75-8: Point Lace x ((Ballerina x Happy Birthday) x (Nomohr x Palomino)).

THE WELL KEPT SECRET

Sheldon Butt (Illinois)

This article is being written the day after the Greater St. Louis Iris Society Late Show—a show which is aimed specifically at the Japanese Iris season. Our iris season here has been rather late—as a result, it was evident that we would only see the beginnings of the Japanese irises and in order to make as much of a show as possible for the public, I made a particular effort to bring as many *Spurias* to the show (and anything else I could find in the garden) as possible. I entered 41 *Spurias*, 23 of which received blue ribbons. At the conclusion of judging, after the stubs had been removed from the entry tags, the show judges—and many others sought me out. The general tenor of their remarks being that although they had seen occasional *Spurias*, they had not previously recognized the beauty and diversity of bloom available from them. To the judges, and others at the show, *Spurias* had been a “well kept secret.” One gentleman with a professional looking photographic outfit spent considerable time making “portraits” of a number of the *Spurias*.

How can we account for the “secret” being so well kept in mid-America? There has been a mistaken tendency to identify *Spurias* with the Southwest and to look upon them as plants particularly adapted to hot, dry climates. We may speculate that this reputation is owed to the predominance of Southwestern hybridizers as breeders of *Spurias*, including Eric Nies (Los Angeles), the most prolific of the pioneers whose name has been given to the top AIS award to *Spurias* whose efforts, largely in the '40s have been the catalyst leading to development of the “modern” *Spurias*. Two Southwesterners who followed were Philip Corliss (Somerton, AZ) and Walker Ferguson (Escondido, CA), prolific careers beginning in the '50s spanning the '60s and extending into the '70s. Eleanor McCown (Holtville, CA), Ben Hager (Stockton, CA), Don Shepard and Floyd Wickenkamp, both from the Phoenix, AZ area have followed as major hybridizers. Somehow, Dave Niswonger's ongoing major contributions from the humid Mississippi valley at Cape Girardeau, MO seem to have been given little weight in deciding upon friendly habitats for the *Spurias*. For that matter, commercial garden sources for *Spurias* are located in northern Illinois (Zone 5) and Southeast Missouri (Zone 6) as well as in the sun belt.

When I first began growing *Spurias* just a few years ago, I was impressed by the recommendations that they be kept dry in the summer. Initially, I did this, but was disappointed by the slow growth rate and decided to modify culture to provide more water. Most recently, I have been most successful treating them the same way as bearded irises. Indeed, I now plant them in the same beds as the bearded sorts. They grow and bloom well with this treatment. I have since learned that they need to be kept dry in the summer only in those areas in which they go completely dormant and lose their foliage in the summer—as evidently is the case in the Southwest. Here where they stay green, reasonable moisture and feeding are beneficial.

The *Spurias* have many characteristics which make them favorites of mine. One of them is the patterning of the falls in many of the cultivars which gives the

impression of engraving. Just as in an engraved picture, the width and spacing of fine lines in a darker color define the overall pattern. The textures of the patterns created add to their appeal. Outstanding examples include ARTS ALIVE (Hager 84), BLUE SPIDERWEB (Ferguson 66), CINNAMON STICK (Niswonger 83), ELEANOR HILL (Hager 80), EVENING DRESS (Ghio 84), HIGHLINE CORAL (McCown 86), LOOKINGGLASS EYES (Niswonger 79) and MEGATREND (Hager 86).

Typically, falls are heavy-substanced and quite resilient. They are resistant to handling damage. A by-product is that they are opaque which is apparent particularly in the case of the lighter colors which seem all the more vivid because of this characteristic. Irises which particularly benefit from this opacity include ARIZONA CONVENTION a yellow self (Niswonger 88), DAWN CANDLE, falls are light yellow with a small orange signal (Ferguson 65), the glowing bright orange DESTINATION (Hager 84) literally glows, GOLDEN LADY is bright and shining pale yellow (Combs 58), the orange signal is really set off against the snowy white ground of ILA CRAWFORD (Hager 76). A really glowing yellow-gold is provided by McCown's IMPERIAL GOLD (1978). Pure white stands out in WHITE HERON (Milliken 48).

Stalks are tall, flexible and tough—it takes more than ordinary scissors to cut them in the garden. In my garden, typical height is in the range of 36" to 42"—I understand that still taller stalks are seen in the southwest. With their strength and flexibility I have seen no problems with stalks falling over in the wind as is so often the case with the TBs. They are excellent season extenders, typically blooming two weeks after the TBs and with the Louisianas but before the Japanese irises.

Of all garden irises, Spurias are by far the best cut flowers. They transport well, and I have been impressed by the arm loads of Spurias which Bobbie Shepard has brought from Phoenix to the AIS conventions in Atlanta and Fort Worth. They last well—a week or more. This has made it possible for me to exhibit them at shows with the Japanese irises.

Finally, plant habits are good. They produce nice tight clumps and can be left in place for many years without being dug and replanted.

In addition to those called out earlier, personal favorites include: ADA PERRY (McCown 76), strong dark colors, dark violet standards and dark red violet falls and bright yellow signals; switching to pastels, AMBER RIPPLES, pale blue standards infused with amber at the midribs and amber falls with pale blue edges (Niswonger 81); BELLISINADO (Corlew 89) is a somewhat smaller iris in my garden, standards are violet, falls are yellow with vivid and pronounced deep violet, almost black veins. Ghio's 1987 CAPITAL IDEA offers a vivid contrast between deep blue purple and yellow signals; another Niswonger brown which attracts is CINNAMON ROLL (1980) rich dark brown with a yellow signal; in a "different" mauve-red with a small yellow signal is COUNTESS ZEPPELIN (Hager 87). CUST (Niswonger 89) is pristine white accentuated by a yellow signal; back in Ben Hager's stable is the unusually colored ELEANOR HILL (1980) with pure purple standards and veined bronze falls fading to a yellow signal—Best in Show in St. Louis in 1991. A voice from the past is FERGY'S POETRY selected from Ferguson seedlings by Runde in 1977, red-violet with deeper edges on the falls and marked deep red contrasting with a yellow signal.

HIGHLINE HALO (McCown 82) is a striking yellow, the edges of the falls are defined by a narrow white border, giving a finished look; as black as old Lucifer is LUCKY DEVIL from Ghio in 1988—a very, very deep blue purple; in complete contrast with the devil is LYDIA JANE (Walker 65) with white standards and yellow falls which are edged white. Dave Niswonger comes through with another brown in SATINWOOD (1983) this time with an orange infusion in the center—while in the brown mood, I have heard much about his CHOCOLATE FUDGE (1988), but have not yet bloomed it. Still with Dave, SPICED TEA (1984) is large and impressive and well named with light brown standards and bright yellow falls rimmed in light brown. A prominent yellow signal with strong, brown veins calls for the name TIGER BLUES (McCown 80), ground color is blue-lavender. Perhaps it is fitting that this list conclude with WALKER FERGUSON, selected from his seedlings by Collins, it is red-brown with a gold signal.

Most of the 50 varieties which I added last year have yet to bloom, when they do next year, I am sure that I will be able to add to my list of favorites.

DIVIDING JAPANESE IRISES

John White (Maine)

Having just (August 1993) dug, divided, and reset about 150 Japanese irises, some of which were set out in 1987, I suggest the following procedure.

Plants can be divided and reset in the Spring but probably will not bloom the same year.

If you have been growing Japanese irises for a few years, you know that they start going downhill after three years. The reason is, that these irises send out new root growth on top of the old roots, so that by four or five years the plant is practically sitting on top of the ground. Usually by the fourth year, one can look down into the center of the plant and it will be open, that is—no leaf fans or no new growth. When this occurs, it is time to dig, divide, and reset the plant. Sometimes one can take hold of the leaves at their base and pull the plant out of the ground.

I prefer to use a spade, preferably a long-handled one, and cut around the plant, perhaps a foot all around it, and then pry the plant out of the ground and turn it on its side. Then, using two spading forks placed back to back and forced down through the roots (usually by putting your foot on the back of the fork and putting your weight on it), you can force the forks through the root system and then pry it apart. It may be necessary to repeat this procedure on each of the two halves. I find that doing it this way does less damage to the base of the leaves than putting the fork down through the center of the plant to divide it before taking it out of the ground.

If the plants go for 4, 5, or 6 years before being divided, the rhizomes one gets are very small. There may be only two or three leaves and very small roots, often only $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ " long. Most of the original plant will be dead, woody material with a lot of old dead roots which must be removed. Dividing and replanting every 3-4 years is a better practice.

An easy way to get the dirt out of the old roots is to rap the root ball on the handle of a spading fork a few times; it will also help break the roots apart.

Before replanting Japanese irises, the soil should be fortified with compost, well rotted cow manure, peat moss, or similar products. Do not use commercial granular fertilizer when replanting as it may burn the new roots and kill the plants. It is necessary to reconstitute the soil as Japanese irises are very heavy feeders, using up food elements rapidly. If one has room enough, it would be good to let a bed lie fallow for a year or two, or to plant on it a green manure crop to be turned under later. The soil needs a lot of humus in order to retain moisture.

Water is essential to Japanese irises for good growth and bloom. Newly set rhizomes should be kept well watered. When it gets dry, a good soaking once a week is beneficial.

Heavy application of fertilizer should be avoided until the plant has become established and has started to grow again. Miracid is a good fertilizer to use, especially after late summer or early fall planting. I usually use 5-10-10 commercial fertilizer around the plants in the spring. Japanese irises need to be well fertilized right up to bloom time.

From my experience this year I prefer to dig and divide the Japanese irises after 3 years. The rhizomes will be larger and in much better condition for replanting. I usually put three or more plants to make a good clump and to allow for possible winter loss.

Spraying with Cygon 2E to control iris borers, thrips, and spider mites is advisable. Spray when the leaves are about 6" high, then every two or three weeks until bloom and again after bloom.

IRIS GARDENING IN THE WINTER

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

The beginning of a new year means that we have survived the hustle and bustle of the holidays. It is now time to begin thinking of two important events which will be arriving soon: taxes and bloom season.

January is the month for reading old issues of the BULLETIN or other iris publications so that we may learn more about this beautiful flower. It's a good time to study parentages in anticipation of making some crosses this spring. It is always interesting to discover that many of our favorites are actually relatives somewhere along the line. If you live in a northern climate, you should have mulched the iris beds long ago. If you live in one of the southern climates, you probably didn't mulch your irises, and that means it is a good idea to venture into the garden on a regular basis to check for heaving. Heaving is what occurs when the freeze-thaw of the soil forces the iris plant out of the ground. Should you discover an iris that is completely out of the ground, replant it, place a rock or brick on top of it and hope. If the plant appears to be "standing" on its roots, cover it again with dirt, and it might be a good idea to cover it as you did the replanted iris.

February is sometimes the month in which anxious gardeners begin to uncover the plants by removing any leaves that may have fallen from the trees and covered them. This probably is not a good idea in climates where the temperature

may drop back to well below freezing later in the month or in March. It is commonly stated in my part of the country that a good time to put fertilizer out for the irises is when the crocus begins to bloom. This has proven to be a good time for many gardeners, so take one of those warm days and put fertilizer around the iris plants—never on them. Having never lived in an area where mulch is applied, I don't know the proper time for removal of the covering, but February is not the time.

March is the month in which Mother Nature pulls all the tricks she knows so far as Oklahoma is concerned. It may be very warm or very cold. It may snow the heaviest snowfall of the year, but this is still the month in which we begin our garden cleanup in earnest. Because this is a time of transition for us, we are much better off to begin cleaning the garden than we are to leave it filled with fallen leaves and other coverings like last year's fans. If we do not remove this unsightly material before warm rains begin to fall, we may suffer later by having to fight soft rot. One would need to consult local experts to determine the time for removing covering for any particular area. March is probably too early to remove mulch in the coldest areas. Whatever time proves to be the proper one for garden cleanup, it is one of the most important tasks of the year. If old fans are allowed to stay on the plant too long, the gardener is inviting problems from insects and rot.

If no fertilizer was applied to established plants during the earlier part of the year, it is still not too late to do so. One should always keep in mind that new soil generally does not require an addition of fertilizer. However, one cannot expect to grow irises in the same soil year after year without applying some kind of additive. If the garden becomes dry, it is a good idea to water the plants. Most of us follow the advice never to water from overhead. Soaker hoses are quite popular with many iris growers because they allow the water to penetrate deeply into the soil so that the roots of the irises will reach downward. We cannot expect the irises to produce tall, stately stalks if there is insufficient water and plant food available.

Early spring is when gardeners must start to spray for leaf spot and pests. It is also when we must begin to watch carefully for the appearance of soft rot. So many remedies are available for use in the garden that recommending one is out of my field of expertise. Check with local irisarians to see what they recommend for preventing the invasions of insects such as the borer, a pest generally not found in southern and western gardens. Plants can be saved from soft rot by many different treatments if the gardener has kept careful watch on the plants and has discovered the problem early enough. Again, local irisarians will know what is best for any particular area.

Some gardeners will now be involved in the annual battle with weeds. Some people use pre-emergent killers to keep from having to fight this battle. Others prefer to pull the weeds by hand. Whatever plan is your preference, it is vital that the irises be kept free of weeds or any other plant that may deprive them of sunlight and nutrients. Henbit, and other such weeds, will have started growing the previous fall. It never hurts to pull these weeds on those warm winter days. They are never bothered by cold weather, so they will continue to grow throughout the winter months. Every weed that is pulled during winter is one less weed to pull in the spring.

Medians and some other types of irises will begin to bloom in March. Now is the time to get out and really enjoy the beauty of these early beauties. When garden cleanup is started, clean those early-bloomer's beds first so that no damage is done to the buds by a too-late start.

We can't do too many things during the first part of the year, but all that we can do to get a head start is important. After all, the glorious season is about to arrive. We want to be as free as possible to enjoy every spectacular minute of it.

SCORCH REVISITED AND A NEW THEORY

Raymond Smith (Indiana)

For the past 43 years I have been growing TB irises and hybridizing for rebloom. Over this period there has been scorch ranging from 1 to 2 percent in both named sorts and seedlings. Ordinarily all sick plants were culled, but if special, and retained, they recovered fully in from one to three years.

The purposes of this article are (a.) to review the research articles on scorch that have appeared in AIS publications over the last forty years, (b.) list observations concerning possible causal conditions, and (c.) to suggest a theory that might serve as a working hypothesis for further research.

In April, 1954, Guy Rogers of Texas wrote a classic description of scorch, "It is first manifest by the tips of leaves becoming brown. Gradually the brownness continues downward until most, if not all of the greenness of the fan is gone. The roots are withered or have entirely lost their vitality depending upon the extent of the drying up process. . . . The rhizomes will be perfectly firm and will yield no visible symptoms of bacteria or fungi."¹

In an article on diseases of rhizomatous iris in California, J. G. Bald et al. reported that plant pathologists had examined diseased irises submitted by Guy Rogers and had found nematodes of a kind different from those causing root-knot. "Scorched plants consistently contained the fungus *Fusarium*; some contained a watermold, probably a species of *Pythium*."²

The accumulated knowledge concerning scorch was summarized in 1959 in *Garden Irises* ³ by A. W. Dimock, a professor of plant pathology at Cornell University. In addition to many fungi such as *Fusarium* and *Pythium* he also found *Rhizoctonia* from roots of "scorched" plants, but he said that none of these organisms were isolated consistently or exclusively. Furthermore, he was unable to reproduce the disease by inoculating healthy plants with any fungus. He concluded his statement with the sentence, ". . . we know of no treatment that will eliminate or prevent scorch."

A further note on Scorch was reported by the AIS Scientific Committee in 1962. Dr. Bald had found in examining discolored areas on the rhizomes of scorched plants from California and Texas that all contained a similar organism which appeared to be a *Pseudomonas*. He said that this suggests a possible relationship between the organism and the disease.⁴

In 1969 Dr. Bald conducted a series of experiments on lilies and irises and reported that the bacterium *Pseudomonas* is "the cause of scorch disease of rhizomatus iris. . . ." He concluded that the disease usually attacks "when blooms are developing and expanding. . . . It can destroy the root system in a short time."⁵

However, an article by Julius Wadekamper in 1972 questions the *Pseudomonas* conclusion. He first adds to the definition of scorch symptoms by noting that, "The roots of a plant that shows new symptoms of scorch in the leaves are already shriveled."

Wadekamper found at least four types of fungus in the diseased roots, but concluded that the fungi "were secondary and were present as a result of the deteriorating tissue and not a cause of the initial deterioration." He further found it impossible to transmit scorch to irises by bacterial inoculation and therefore concluded that a *pseudomonas* cause of scorch has not been proven and is in serious question.⁶

Six months later Wadekamper published the results of three experiments related to scorch. The first indicated that, contrary to some suggestions, ozone did not produce scorch in irises.

In the second study, seven different plants were treated with diseased iris plant sap from roots, rhizomes and leaves. A leaf from each treated iris was mascerated and then one half of each leaf was then rubbed with the diseased plant sap, the other half with distilled water. No differences were found between the halves of the experimental plants for any of the seven.

In the third experiment, root and rhizome sap from both healthy and diseased plants were compared by electron microscope to search for differences in virus particles. Again no significant differences were found. These three negative findings suggest that either the variables, that is ozone, sap from diseased plants and virus particles are all benign when applied to healthy plants, or that the experimental designs were incapable of producing detectable differences.⁷

In 1978 publication of *The World of Irises* included a fine summary chapter of iris diseases written by John Weiler. He summarized knowledge of scorch to that year and added that although reports of the incidence of scorch is greatest in the tier of southern states, neither the cause nor the control of the condition is known.⁸

The next mention of scorch in the *Bulletin* was an article by Paul Black in which he reported a devastating incidence (up to 70%) in his own plantings. He noted the universality of the disease throughout the United States with the exceptions of Washington, Oregon, Utah and Idaho. Also it has been found throughout bearded iris classifications, as well as in the non-bearded Louisianas. In his own gardens most scorch appeared during times of rapid growth, and that it seems to occur most often in clean, well kept gardens, which suggested to him that it might enter the plant through a damaged root system due to cultivating or weed pulling. As treatment, Paul began incorporating the fungicide Terrachlor Super-X into the soil and practically eliminated the disease. He found that the use of Terrachlor liquid drench worked equally well. He began regular use of Terrachlor Super-X at 9 lbs. per acre but cautions that this is three times the normal dosage and may not be proper. Also a fungicide at this dosage could be affecting any fungi or bacteria

present. His treatment worked, but possible effects on plants or soil were undetermined.⁹

Conditions Conducive to Scorch

I have noted the following conditions accompanying cases of scorch in my garden.

1. Root Damage: rototilling, hoeing
2. Leaf Damage: virus, fungi, bacteria, rabbits, tramping from animals
3. Rhizome Damage: borer, crown rot, soft rot
4. Competition: closely grown seedlings
5. Weather Conditions: dry—augments tilling danger
hot—augments crown rot
wet—compacts soil, eliminates
oxygen, augments water borne
diseases
6. Herbicides: soil chemical build-up
7. Insecticides: e.g. Cygon a bit strong can initiate leaf dessication
8. Soil pH: either excess acidity or alkalinity
9. Lack of trace minerals: weak plants
10. Lack of humus: weak plants
11. Lack of Nitrogen, Potassium, Phosphorus, Lime: poor growth
12. Roots of trees or other ornamentals
13. Major changes in climate
14. Any combination of the above

Any of the above or any combination of them places the iris under stress. Light stress seems to be beneficial. Shallow cultivation appears to cause a spurt of growth. The competition of a weed trying to grow in a raspberry patch may cause it to reach twice its normal height. A clump of irises run over by a truck may recover with amazing rapidity. Scientists have known for some time that stressed plants send salicylic acid as a signal causing the plant to initiate its natural defenses—nicotinic acid, or whatever. If the assault is moderate, the plant will build a partial immunity to the injury. It has recently been shown through a study in which a bacterial gene capable of salicylic acid transformation, was placed into tobacco, that the usual immunity was not acquired. The authors concluded that the immunity is dependent either upon the accumulated salicylic acid or to protein expressed by genes activated by the acid.¹⁰

If, however, the attack is severe relative to the condition of the iris, the iris will go into scorch. The hypothesis presented here is, then, that *scorch is a condition rather than a disease*. It can be caused by many things, any of which, singly or in combination, can cause the plant to scorch. It is *stress* that causes an internal reaction in the plant. It is as if the plant says to itself, "I cannot cope with this situation," and goes dormant for a time.

The fact that the plant reacts favorably to mild stress suggests that the initiating factor might be an auxin such as gibberellic acid. It wasn't long ago that this was on the market as a weed killer that acted by stimulating excessive growth.

If scorch is caused by some internal growth inhibitor, it should be possible for one of our botanists or biologists to come up with a counter measure that could save a lot of valuable irises.

In conclusion I have hypothesized that scorch is a dormant condition of a bearded iris rhizome (or a Louisiana iris) brought about by stress. In response the plant generates a growth inhibitor that kills all roots and top growth. Recovery occurs naturally and usually within a period of one year.

It may be possible to accelerate the recovery process as is done with dormant iris seeds, by simply soaking in water. We need not know the name of the inhibitor to experiment with methods of amelioration. Wasn't it the Aztec Indians who discovered that an offering to the gods by including a piece of fish in each hill of maize produced remarkable results? Growers can try such remedies as soaking rhizomes in normal solutions (or even stronger) of salt, sugar, household bleach, fungicides, germicides, alcohol, acetone, Rootone, epsom salts, calcium chloride, sulphur, or whatever. A valuable rhizome may be worth a try.

References

¹A.I.S. *Bulletin* 133, 38.

²A.I.S. *Bulletin* 144, 79.

³*Garden Irises*, L. F. Randolph, 1958, 96.

⁴A.I.S. *Bulletin* 164, 92.

⁵A.I.S. *Bulletin* 195, 26.

⁶A.I.S. *Bulletin* 204, 21.

⁷A.I.S. *Bulletin* 206, 63.

⁸*The World of Irises*, Bee Warburton, 1978, 346- 7.

⁹A.I.S. *Bulletin* 252, 32.

¹⁰*Science* 261, 754 (1993).

KEITH KEPPEL WINS FOSTER MEMORIAL PLAQUE

American hybridizer Keith Keppel has been honored by the British Iris Society as the winner of the Foster Memorial Plaque for 1993. This is the highest personal award made by the BIS and is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the genus iris. The award was instituted in 1926.

Only four other American hybridizers have been honored with this award in the past twenty years. They were Bee Warburton in 1975, Currier McEwen in 1978, Melba Hamblen in 1980 and Ben Hager in 1981.

Keith's irises are famous the world over, and he has been honored by The American Iris Society with the Hybridizer's Medal. One of his irises, BABBLING BROOK, was the winner of the Dykes Memorial Medal.

AT THE SPECIES LEVEL

Roy Davidson (Washington)

Kermesina: Crimson Blue-Flags

Compilers of early checklists waded through voluminous amounts of material, much of it deadly dull, to integrate their gleanings with current horticultural records, thus bringing together in one place all the information relevant to iris nomenclature, though in very abbreviated form. While gleaning the literature they surely must have happened onto certain items which seemed pure treasure but for *which* there simply was no place. To anybody interested, such golden trivia is still accessible, though only by a re-examination of that volume of widely scattered original material.

The word "*kermesina*" does not allude to Kermis, the annual outdoor fair of the Low Countries of northwestern Europe, which originated in a religious festival, but comes rather from the Arabic *Kermes*, the same root that gave "crimson" and the generic *Kermes* for the scale insects such as infest the ever-green scrub-oak of the Mediterranean maquis, *Quercus coccifera*, consequently known as the Kermes Oak. The relevant point here is that the dried bodies of the females of the insect swollen with eggs yield the crimson dye so valued by mankind; as applied to irises, *Kermesina* has been used to indicate the red-purple form of *Iris versicolor*.

The word "*flag*" from middle-English "*flagge*" was originally intended more as a descriptive adjective for various wetland reeds, rushes and other long-bladed plants such as Typha or Iris; *Acorus* became sweet-flag for the pleasant aroma produced by bruising, and yellow-flag became the common designation of the European counterpart to the American blue-flags. Later the several obviously different American species were set apart as distinct, the Great Blue Flag, Lesser Blue Flag, Western Blue Flag, etc.

Dykes in his 1913 monograph did not see fit to recognize more than a single species of these so-called Great Blue Flags of eastern North America, and his interpretation of *Iris versicolor* purposely included all of them growing from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. Historically however, *I. versicolor* had been originally described by Dillenius in 1732, and Ehrat later had pictured its red-purple form (1748) though without any distinguishing name. *I. virginica* was originally described by Gronovius in 1739. Since taxonomic botany is considered as having commenced with Linnaeus, both these binomials are credited to him as they appeared in his SPECIES PLANTARUM of 1753, unjust as it may seem.

The present consideration of these Eastern or Great Blue Flags was contributed by Edgar Anderson in 1936. Irisdom has never sung loudly enough its appreciation of Anderson's painstaking and foresighted work with the eastern species of *Iris*, which also included the gulf-coast species of Section Hexagonae. His focus being purely biological, he was not particularly concerned with such minor matters as flower color variation, although his very readable accounts of such explorations as to Hudson's Bay and the St. Lawrence Gulf tell us he did not miss much.

Anderson will be long and best remembered for having recognized the perfectly obvious phenomenon he called "introgression," or the infiltration of the genes of one species by those of another, certainly one of the significant influences on plant evolution. Although introgression is very widespread in nature, it can be so subtle as to be easily overlooked. It can also be a major hinderance often in establishing limits of field-ranges, such as often occur among irises. Anderson justified the situation among the great Blue-flags by determining that there actually were two distinct though near-related species: *Iris versicolor* to the north and *Iris virginica* to the south. He also discerned that within their overlap zone, in the southern part of the Great Lakes Basin, the two interbreed to give the hybrid he called *Iris X robusta*. In his experimental growing plot, he was successful in its replication through carefully controlled hand-pollination. One of these hybrids appears in the Iris registrations as 'Indomitable' (1939).

Anderson was led to concede that Small's *Iris shrevei* fit into this pattern of blue-flags as *Iris virginica* variety *shrevei*, the Mississippi Valley form of the species which shows introgressive tendencies from *I. versicolor*. Having found *Iris versicolor* itself to be amphidiploid, with its two sets each of dissimilar chromosomes indicating a hybrid nature, Anderson demonstrated that it doubtlessly had come about through the union of *I. virginica* with the boreal Asian-American *I. setosa* which had been badly decimated by the Pleistocene ice-sheet that covered Canada, but left remnants surviving the ice in unglaciated Alaska and in Laurentian Quebec and adjacent lands as far to the South as Maine. This last was called *Iris hookeri* by Penny in 1840, but as it was not felt to be really specifically distinct, it was proposed as *Iris setosa* var. *canadensis* by Michael Foster, though not legitimately published as such until taken up by Hulten in 1938.

In turn, hybrids between *Iris setosa* var. *canadensis* and *Iris versicolor* found in Quebec were named *Iris X Sancti-cyri* by Rousseau in 1950, which completed the circuitous sequence that epitomizes Anderson's Principle of Introgression. This sort of complex of *Iris* species and hybrids is unique among apogons for diversity from the biological standpoint as well as through the significant documentation Anderson gave it. Crimson pigmentation as found in *I. versicolor* var. *kermesina* is unknown to any other of them.

The checklist displays a number of entries under **Kermesina**, a few of which may be handily dismissed as careless errors; three are cited as having been similar dark red-toned purple Japanese Irises cataloged by England's Barr & Sons in 1879, all declared to be obsolete in 1939. The related **Kermes** is included here for clarity; a seedling mentioned by Hort in his UNCONVENTIONAL GARDEN was later identified in the 1944 *BIS Yearbook* as one of the early unregistered Cal-Sibe hybrids.

A further checklist entry reads: **Kermesina**, Laevigata Section, medium red-purple (1901). The earliest commercial listing cited was that of Barr & Sons in 1901. As the checklist follows the Dykes-Diels classification, a look there discloses that Dykes in 1924 did acknowledge *Iris versicolor* var. *kermesina* as the category within Section Laevigata to which this belongs. Cave published (1950) a splendid photo, and though not in color, it does show a flower of great style. Mathew has reported this as still alive and well in Britain in 1981.

Hillson in 1948 registered what must have resulted from open-pollination, a

seedling which they named 'Claret Cup.' This superior plant is very widely grown; as to how it should be properly labeled for show entry, just the cultivar name should be sufficient, but to be very thorough, *Iris versicolor* var. *Kermesina* 'Claret Cup' says it all.

The editors of the AIS publication *THE WORLD OF IRISES* (1978) did not adopt *Kermesina* as the botanical variety but rather as a horticultural cultivar, a usage that brings with it the problem of deciding which of the plants in cultivation by the name over the years was the original, or even if it still exists. It had not been mentioned in the prior *GARDEN IRISES* (1959), and in *THE IRISES, AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL* (1949) only appears in the brief statement: "*Iris versicolor* varies from slatey blue to purple to rich red" and the indication that those reds were called *Kermesina*. Obviously this was intended as a color form rather than a single clone.

As representing the red form of *Iris versicolor*, the variety *Kermesina* must also include those with pigmentation so dilute as to appear pink; in addition to the cultivars mentioned in *THE WORLD OF IRISES* ('David', 'Rosea', 'Claret Cup') there are now many more in the registrations, from blush to burgundy. Oddly enough, *I. versicolor* with white flowers is exceedingly uncommon; the single record of it, found by Murray in 1935 in Newfoundland and named *I. versicolor* forma *murrayana* by Fernold, is in cultivation.

- (1) Anderson, Edgar, (1936), *The Species Problem in Iris*
- (2) Cave, N. Leslie, (1950), *The Iris* (with photo by Downward)
- (3) Dykes, W.R., (1913), *The Genus Iris*
- (4) Dykes, W.R., (1924), *Handbook of Garden Iris*
- (5) Hultén, Eric, (1938), *Flora of Alaska and Adjacent Territories*
- (6) Mathew, Brian, (1981), *The Iris*

ARRANGER'S CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins (Georgia)

All elements of flower arranging are important, and it is difficult to say that one is more critical than the other as the unified whole makes the final statement or emotional impact.

One of the subtle requirements that is often overlooked is the background for the design. This is a part of the design that many think is too much trouble to bother with. Yet, when they see their design in front of the right background it adds so much to the distinction. They will never be without one again.

Backgrounds can be of several different constructions. It can simply be a piece of cardboard, covered with a contrasting fabric or finish of some kind. The office supply houses are carrying a display board which is cardboard, scored with two sides, and makes an easily transported, light-weight background. This back with two side pieces is a niche. (See Figure 1. Irises with cactus wood in front of a display board) Some use a niche made of fiberboard, plywood, or insulation-type foam board. All work well, and if cared for, can be used over and over, especially if they are cut in a standard size. The standard size could be determined by

measuring the table and dividing it by the number of designs to be placed on it, keeping in mind the side pieces.

The covering or color of the background will make a major impact on the design, so experiment to see which shows off the design the best. A solid color is commonly used (black, white or natural are almost always “safe” to use), but try another color if a dramatic statement is being made. Use caution when selecting a color so it does not dominate the entire design and it is what you see first; the iris and plant materials should be emphasized. Another mistake is to use a patterned background that obliterates the design. When in doubt, return to the black, white or natural background.

A question has been asked about background fabric being satin, velvet or brocade and folded or draped. These fabrics instill a rich, luxurious feeling and if the theme is appropriate such as “Royal Wedding,” “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” etc., they would work very well. A theme such as “Nature’s Woodland” or “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” might require more texture or roughness for the background. Folds and draping should be avoided if they are too busy and distract from the design and plant materials. Try coverings smooth and then draped and see if it doesn’t make a difference in the distinction of the design. A very wise person once said, “When in doubt, don’t!”

If the location for designs will allow the table to be placed flush to the wall, possibly the wall can be the background if it is not a busy pattern. In this case divide the designs on the table with ribbons or some other means of separation.

IF you have to place a design in front of a busy pattern or one that might be dominant make your design *MORE* bold, *MORE* colorful, and use very dominant colors for the flowers. What color do you normally see first—it has been suggested that yellow is the color we all see first, then white or red, etc. Line materials can possibly be sprayed (if the schedule allows) black or another dominant color that will stand out in front of a patterned background.

Staging can enhance designs and give some relief to monotonous rows of tables. Suggested variations are pedestals, platforms or round tables. (See Figures 2 and 3) The pedestals can be different styles, more ornate or less. If painting the staging is too much trouble, cover with paper, as was done with the platform in the picture. The round table is a round card table covered with brown paper—it makes it look very stable and gives a solid feeling for placement of a design.

Figure 4 is a table (covered with brown paper) with 4 designs, and a background is provided with additional brown paper. What is not visible is a faint sketch on the brown paper background that is in keeping with the theme of the class (The Great Wall of China). Designs are separated with ribbon dividers.

Staging horticulture is usually on tables, and possibly, risers are used to elevate the specimens. Especially nice is to have a special table with risers for the winners of the various sections to be displayed and ribbons/awards shown here. Horticulture display tables can be skirted or covered with paper. The Georgia Iris Society purchased fabric with “no wrinkle” qualities and made it into table coverings to expedite covering the horticulture tables, hostess table and any other table for use in the show. The color chosen was close to a seafoam blue-green and gives the overall show a very unified look. They are washed by volunteers after the show and stored, ready to use the next year. This expenditure was shared

with the Atlanta Hemerocallis Society, and they use the coverings for their show too.

When staging tall iris specimens, it would be helpful for judging if they were staged lower and visitors could appreciate the way they would look in the garden (might help sales efforts too if you are selling potted irises at the same time).

I hope that somewhere in this article some idea has come to you that can be implemented in some way in your shows. If anyone has a unique way to stage, either horticulture or designs that were not mentioned, drop me a line and it can be passed on in another article.

Send any questions or comments to: Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512. The flower arranging book, "AT HOME WITH FLOWERS" is available for \$17 which covers handling and postage. This is a softbound book with color pictures prepared by designers and illustrates the basics of designing from A - Z, plus some extra hints on drying flowers, mechanics, etc.



Figure 1

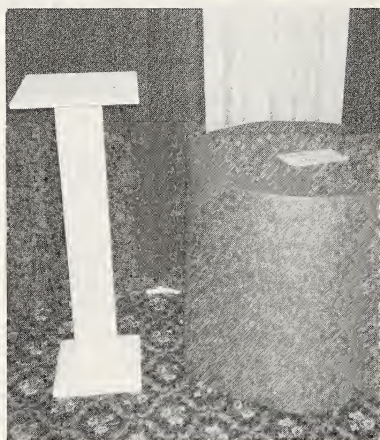


Figure 2

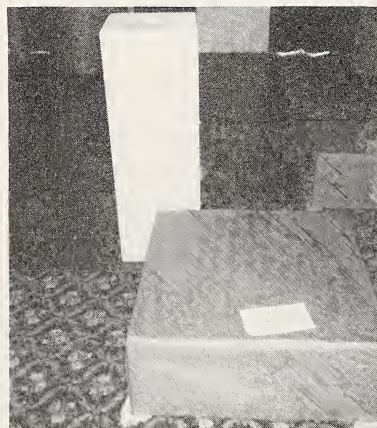


Figure 3

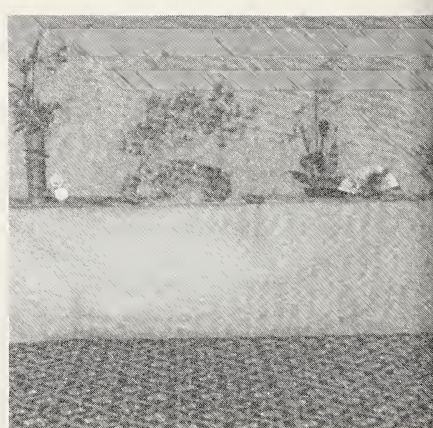


Figure 4

1994 TALL BEARDED SYMPOSIUM

1993	1994	Votes	Variety	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
1	1	863	Dusky Challenger	Schreiners	'86	M-L	39"	dark purple
2	2	764	Beverly Sills	B. Hager	'79	M	36"	pink
8	3	676	Jesse's Song	B. Williamson	'83	M	36"	white, violet plicata
5	4	637	Edith Wolford	B. Hager	'86	M	40"	yellow/violet
7	5	634	Silverado	Schreiners	'87	M	38"	light blue
3	6	631	Titan's Glory	Schreiners	'81	E-M	37"	dark violet
4	6	631	Vanity	B. Hager	'75	E-L	36"	pink
6	8	604	Stepping Out	Schreiners	'64	M-L	38"	white/blue violet plic.
15	9	479	Going My Way	J. Gibson	'72	M	37"	white/blue, violet plic.
9	10	474	Victoria Falls	Schreiners	'77	E-L	40"	blue, white fall spot
13	11	460	Lady Friend	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
12	12	445	Mary Frances	L. Gaulter	'73	M	38"	blue-orchid
11	13	442	Laced Cotton	Schreiners	'80	M-L	34"	white
14	14	438	Superstition	Schreiners	'77	M	36"	maroon black
10	15	427	Song of Norway	W. Luihn	'79	M-L	38"	powder blue, blue beards
16	16	426	Honky Tonk Blues	Schreiners	'88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
17	17	389	Breakers	Schreiners	'86	M	37"	blue
19	18	371	Supreme Sultan	Schreiners	'88	M-L	40"	yellow/crimson
18	19	365	Mystique	J. Ghio	'75	E-L	36"	light blue/blue-purple
27	20	336	Joyce Terry	T. Muhlestein	'74	M-L	38"	yellow/white edged yellow
25	21	328	Ringo	G. Shoop	'79	M	38"	white/grape, edged white
21	22	327	Bride's Halo	H. Mohr	'73	E-L	36"	white, edged yellow
20	23	316	Copper Classic	E. Roderick	'75	L	30"	burnt orange
22	24	308	Mulled Wine	K. Keppel	'82	L	36"	raspberry burgundy
26	25	307	Sky Hooks	M. Osborne	'80	M	36"	soft yellow, violet horns
24	26	303	Anna Belle Babson	B. Hager	'85	M	36"	pink

23	27	296	Everything Plus	D. Niswonger	'84	M	34"	blue-white/white-violet plic
30	28	292	Immortality	L. Zurbrigg	'84	M&Re	30"	white
33	29	280	Queen in Calico	J. Gibson	'80	M	34"	apricot, red-violet plic
29	30	278	Codicil	S. Innerst	'85	M-L	32"	light blue, near black beard
28	31	276	Gay Parasol	Schreiners	'74	M	35"	lavender/rose violet
40	32	275	Champagne Elegance	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	pink/apricot
39	33	264	Rustler	K. Keppel	'88	M	37"	gold-brown
32	34	259	Dazzling Gold	D. C. Anderson	'81	M	29"	yellow/veined brown
43	35	232	Skating Party	L. Gaultier	'83	M-L	40"	white
30	36	228	Kilt Lilt	J. Gibson	'70	E-M	40"	tan-gold/maroon, white plic
34	37	215	Ruffled Ballet	E. Roderick	'75	M-L	30"	blue-white/medium blue
43	38	214	Camelot Rose	C. Tompkins	'65	M-L	30"	lilac/burgundy
51	39	212	Eastertime	Schreiners	'80	M-L	38"	cream/white, edged gold
38	40	211	Lonlee	Schreiners	'81	M-L	37"	rose orchid
35	40	211	Olympiad	J. Ghio	'84	E-L	38"	pale blue, darker in heart
48	42	207	Extravagant	M. Hamblen	'83	M-L	36"	red purple
68	43	205	Thriller	Schreiners	'88	M-L	36"	cerise/claret
100	44	204	Before the Storm	S. Innerst	'88	M	36"	black self
52	44	204	Bubbling Over	J. Ghio	'82	E-L	36"	blue-lilac
47	44	204	Persian Berry	L. Gaultier	'77	M	35"	mulberry lavender blend
36	44	204	Rosette Wine	Schreiners	'89	M	37"	rasp-rose, white fall spot
45	48	203	Tide's In	Schreiners	'83	E-M	36"	blue
41	49	202	Grand Waltz	Schreiners	'70	M-L	35"	lavender orchid
45	49	202	Study in Black	G. Plough	'68	E-M	36"	red black
54	51	201	Hindenburg	W. Maryott	'83	M	37"	orange
49	52	199	Altruist	Schreiners	'87	E-M	37"	blue
—	52	199	Thornbird	M. Byers	'89	M	35"	ecru/greenish tan
60	54	186	Christmas Time	Schreiners	'65	M	41"	white, tangerine beard
55	54	186	Lemon Mist	N. Rudolph	'72	E	32"	lemon yellow
—	56	185	Rare Treat	Schreiners	'87	E-M	34"	blue, white ground plic

42	57	184	Leda's Lover	B.Hager	'80	M	38"	white
73	57	184	Sweet Musette	Schreiners	'86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose bitone
57	59	182	Chico Maid	W.Luihn	'85	M-L	38"	pale blue, blue beard
50	59	182	Eagle's Flight	Schreiners	'86	E-M	35"	rosy blue/white, rose lav/plc
73	61	181	Best Bet	Schreiners	'88	E	36"	light blue/deep blue falls
62	61	181	Pledge Allegiance	Schreiners	'84	M	37"	medium blue
89	63	180	Dover Beach	D.C.Nearpass	'72	E-L	42"	white/blue
72	63	180	Holy Night	K. Mohr	'83	E	35"	deep violet-purple
55	63	180	Lacy Snowflake	Schreiners	'77	M	38"	white
—	66	179	Afternoon Delight	R.Ernst	'85	M	36"	golden tan/lav. white on falls
78	66	179	Debby Raidon	Mrs.H.Kuntz	'65	M-L	36"	yellow/white edged yellow
63	68	177	Orange Slices	D.Niswonger	'87	M	33"	orange
79	68	177	Purple Pepper	D.C.Nearpass	'86	M	35"	lavender blue violet
76	70	176	Designer Gown	J.Ghio	'85	E-M	34"	pink
81	71	174	Tomorrow's Child	B.Blyth/K.Keppel	'84	M-L	36"	pink/red violet
60	72	173	Cup Race	S.Buttrick	'63	M-L	36"	white
58	72	173	Queen of Hearts	O.Brown	'74	M	36"	buff pink/ivory, buff pink
86	74	169	Navy Strut	Schreiners	'74	E-M	35"	dark violet-blue
53	74	169	Oktoberfest	W.Maryott	'87	M	37"	red orange
58	74	169	Pink Taffeta	N.Rudolph	'68	E-M	31"	pink
70	77	167	Theatre	K.Keppel	'81	E-M	34"	white & violet bitone plc
66	78	165	Bayberry Candle	C.DeForest	'69	M	36"	chartreuse/gold, olive green
64	79	164	Spinning Wheel	D.C.Nearpass	'76	M	34"	off white/blue, white plc
75	80	162	Dusky Dancer	W.Luihn	'67	M	36"	violet black
83	81	161	Cranberry Ice	Schreiners	'76	M-L	36"	cranberry violet
—	82	160	Crystal Glitters	Schreiners	'85	E-M	36"	peach cream bitone
79	83	159	Michigan Pride	T.Berndt	'76	M	36"	yellow/maroon brown
92	84	158	Rancho Rose	J.Gibson	'75	M	38"	salmon rose/magenta plc
92	85	157	Infinite Grace	M.Hamblen	'82	M	36"	warm white/medium pink
95	85	157	Lullaby of Spring	Schreiners	'87	E-M	38"	mimosa yellow/pastel mauve

99	87	156	Gypsy Woman	Schreiners	'85	E-M	35"	yellow/white, rose orchid rim
—	87	156	Night Ruler	Schreiners	'90	M	39"	dark purple/black
—	89	155	America's Cup	J. McWhirter	'89	M	40"	white
86	89	155	Catalyst	K. Keppel	'80	M	35"	yellow
67	91	154	Latin Lover	G. Shoop	'69	M	36"	lavender pink/grape wine
86	92	153	Raspberry Fudge	K. Keppel	'89	E-M	36"	raspberry tan/cream, rasp-tan
70	93	152	Ginger Swirl	Schreiners	'85	M-L	34"	copper-orchid
68	93	152	Sapphire Hills	Schreiners	'71	M	36"	blue
82	93	152	Son of Star	G. Plough	'69	E-L	36"	cadmium orange
100	93	152	Winter Olympics	O. Brown	'63	E-M	37"	white
98	97	151	Babbling Brook	K. Keppel	'66	M	38"	light blue
83	98	149	Master Touch	Schreiners	'80	E-M	40"	purple
96	99	148	Blue Sapphire	Schreiners	'53	E	40"	light blue
77	99	148	Shipshape	S. Babson	'69	M	38"	medium blue

Runners-up: 147 TUT'S GOLD

143 GOLD GALORE

142 SWEETER THAN WINE

141 KAREN, LATIN LOVER

139 LOYALIST

138 DREAM LOVER

129 VISUAL ARTS

127 ACOMA, NEW MOON

New to the Symposium: AFTERNOON DELIGHT, AMERICA'S CUP, CRYSTAL GLITTERS, NIGHT RULER, RARE TREAT, THORNBIRD.

They replace: DREAM LOVER, GOLD GALORE, KAREN, LATIN HIDEAWAY, NEW MOON, PARADISE, TUT'S GOLD, VISUAL ARTS.

Approximately 21% of the AIS members voted. Region 12 had the highest percentage with 48.7%. Region 11 was second with 43.0%. Region 14 had the highest number of members voting (173).

A VISIT WITH BEN HAGER

Lowell Baumunk (Colorado)

April 30. The early morning Central Valley sun was burning off the remnants of the dew as we slowly found our way along the country roads a few miles east of Stockton. It was an area of overgrown hedges, extravagantly beautiful roses and modest small farms. On the first pass, we missed the faded sign that said, "Melrose Gardens." We turned around at the end of the dead end road, drove a couple of hundred yards, and saw the irises in the back fields.

We pulled in to the narrow drive. To our right was a small bungalow and a mostly collapsed ancient barn, both obscured by jungle-like undergrowth and overgrowth. Ahead of us were fields of irises. And in the distance among the flowers stood a solitary bearded figure intently studying one of the plants.

Wearing a floppy straw hat, a workman's apron and faded jeans was 78-year-old Ben Hager, the winner of three Dykes Medals and, incredibly, the winner of The American Iris Society's top award for every type of iris except one (the Pacific Coast Irises).

Dismissing our protests that we didn't want to interfere with his work time, Hager treated us to a personal tour of the entire Melrose operation. We immediately were put at ease by our host's light-hearted manner. It was apparent that it was a pleasure for him to show us his garden and talk with us about irises. His distinctive laugh punctuated the conversation and reflected his positive perspective. He could joke and laugh even when telling about things that had gone wrong in his hybridizing and gardening. The good humored twinkle in his eye was ever present.

The bloom season was at its height. Hager carried a pocket full of nylon ribbons for tying to promising seedlings. He was a year behind in selecting seedlings, he explained, because of injuries sustained in an automobile accident during the previous iris bloom season.

Among the second year seedlings, Hager pointed out plants from a cross of MOTHER EARTH X BEST BET. They included several variations on a large-flowered blue bitone theme. And they were projected, by their parentage, to be dynamite rebloomers. Hager has emerged as one of the leaders in the movement to improve the quality of reblooming (remontant) irises. His introduction in 1990 of eight rebloomers with modern style and appealing color changed the complexion of the reblooming iris world. And he continues to add a few more each year.

There is still a small gap, he feels, in the overall flower quality between the rebloomers and the once-blooming irises. It is a gap he is working to close. Hager thinks that in less than 15 years rebloomers will dominate new iris introductions. Working for cultivars that will rebloom in cold climates, Hager looks for plants that rebloom by the end of August in Stockton. Even so, he must wait for reports from growers in other parts of the country before he can completely judge an iris' reblooming ability.

As we walked toward the field containing selected seedlings from the past few years, the caterpillar tractor that had been working in a back field pulled up near

us, and we met the driver, the other partner in Melrose Gardens, Sid DuBose. His cordial greeting added to our feeling of being welcome.

Hager led us directly to an iris he called his "baby," seedling T5431SthPk/DpLv, a pink and blue bicolor such as we hadn't seen before. Reminding us of an EDITH WOLFORD with pink instead of yellow standards. Outstanding in form, branching and color. Watch for this one!

We moved on to the latest in Hager's blue bearded pink line. Interestingly, several of these irises were appearing with the "horns" and other types of extended beards that characterize what are called "space age" irises. We were somewhat surprised to learn that Hager is less than enthusiastic about this development. It's not what he's working for in this particular line.

The seedlings that were blooming for the first time were delightful. How interesting it was to see the variations that are possible from a single cross. And of course, these being Ben Hager's seedlings, we were led to speculate on which might be introduced or even win awards.

Another field contained past introductions from Melrose Gardens. We spotted some recent favorites of ours: EDITH WOLFORD, the 1993 winner of the Dykes Medal, the wonderful yellow and blue bicolor that is now showing in almost every up-to-date iris garden in the country. We feasted our eyes on the outstanding orange GOOD SHOW, the brilliant variegata GLAD RAGS, the Dykes Medal winning SHIPSHAPE which Melrose introduced for Sanford Babson, Sid DuBose's SHAMAN, and of course, Hager's Dykes winners, the pinks VANITY and BEVERLY SILLS. Hager expressed some surprise that VANITY had won the coveted award, "It's pretty, but it's not a great iris. It must grow better in other parts of the country." He noted that VANITY is well down the list in the California popularity poll, while seeming to have a permanent berth in the top five nationally. About BEVERLY SILLS he had no such reservations. "The first time I saw it bloom, I knew." And he was certainly right; BEVERLY SILLS assumed the number one position in the Iris Society popularity poll the very first year it was eligible and maintained that position for twelve years, from 1981 to 1992.

Farthest to the southwest of the cultivated fields were introductions from the last three or four years. KATHLEEN KAY NELSON, the well-formed, well-branched dark blue with a white center, immediately caught our attention. HORATIO gives a similar impression, but with a tangerine beard. The well-named DRUM ROLL a huge blue, proclaimed itself. CONTRIBUTION is an orchid tinted variation that makes a vivid impression. Then there were the rebloomers: SUNNY SHOULDERS, an iris we've grown to love in our own garden, is a well-formed white with bright yellow hafts. There was the nice new white introduction FOREVER YOURS, CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, a big round medium light blue, and the huge new medium purple RECURRING DREAM, which blooms almost constantly through the summer and autumn in Stockton.

Then there were the plants that were not in bloom. No one has equaled Ben Hager in successfully hybridizing so many kinds of irises—not to mention daylilies and daffodils. In recent years, the Melrose commercial operation has been scaled down so that only tall bearded irises are sold, but Hager still is actively hybridizing other classes. His spuria irises and his daylily introductions are sold by Cordon

Bleu Gardens. Median iris introductions are marketed by Adamgrove. A glance at the Adamgrove catalog will assure you that he is still very involved in producing new dwarf and intermediate irises. Along with appealing selections in the traditional classes, there are offerings of innovative "small flowered standard dwarfs." The idea is to achieve an appealing proportion similar to that of the miniature tall bearded irises.

Hager is an innovator. He pioneered the tetraploid miniature tall. His hard-to-classify beardless HOLDEN CLOUGH progeny, PHIL EDINGER and ROY DAVIDSON have found a large following. In 1992 he introduced four tall bearded "season extenders," including the latest blooming of all, AFTER THE BALL, listed as "VVVLate" and said to bloom along with the Japanese Irises. We saw only young bloomstalks on the season extenders when we were at Melrose.

When our leisurely tour finally wound down, Hager invited us to sit down in some rustic chairs in a shady area looking out on the irises. This spot serves as a retreat from the heat of summer afternoons and as a place to relax and talk in the cool California evenings after what, until the past few years, have been typically 14 to 16-hour work days.

I asked about the direction of his hybridizing. For Hager, the most exciting developments in the seedling patch are irises with new color combinations, especially bicolors like the seedling we had admired earlier in the morning. His unattained hybridizing goal is a pink ground plicata with brown markings, though Hager doesn't work with plicatas much. He is quick to disclaim that he is competing in the area of plicatas with fellow Stockton hybridizer Keith Keppel. "Keith," he says, "is the plicata man."

Hager is concerned that there aren't enough young hybridizers. There is more of a gap, he thinks, between the older and younger generations of hybridizers than ever before.

"Just start crossing. Be original," he advises younger practitioners of his art. He also slyly hints that it wouldn't be foolish to work with rebloomers.

We talked about Hager's past and how his interest in irises developed. He is a native Californian, born in the small town of Aromas. As a young child he kept gardens, but didn't receive much encouragement. He grew gladioli and carnations, trying without success to make crosses. As a young man he "did what most people in Laguna Beach did to make it through the depression." He worked in the ceramics industry. Hager had the opportunity to design ceramic artifacts, including a swan-shaped bathroom towel holder which stayed on the market for 15 years and earned him substantial royalties.

At about the same time his artistic expression took a turn in a different direction. In 1950 someone gave him some old irises. He immediately became devoted to them, making crosses the first year! These irises were later identified as some of the classics of an earlier era, including PURISSIMA, GREAT LAKES, and MISSOURI. Ben Hager's obsession with the iris had begun.

In another crucial move, Hager learned of the existence of an iris society and joined immediately. Through the society he met Carl Milliken, owner of Milliken Gardens, and Tom Craig who was the top Southern California hybridizer at the time. He worked for Craig for three months, and then after having grown irises only two years, Hager became manager of Milliken Gardens. Having met Sid

DuBose at an iris show, he hired him to work for Milliken.

In 1955 Hager and DuBose purchased Melrose Gardens, which was then located in Modesto. In 1958 they moved to their present location. For the first ten years in Stockton, DuBose worked at Gallo Glass to help pay off the mortgage, but for the past 25 years they have been able to live off the garden.

Hager has done extensive writing on the subject of irises. He collaborated with photographer Josh Westrich in the illustrated book, *THE IRIS* (Thames & Hudson, 1989), writing a comprehensive account on the history and present status of the genus *Iris*. He has been contributor of well-written, interesting articles in the *AIS Bulletin* and in the publications of the various sections of the AIS. Sections of the AIS publication *THE WORLD OF IRISES* were written by Hager.

Confessing a nervousness about riding in an automobile, a result of last year's accident, Hager prepared to leave to visit a neighboring garden. We were invited to stay at Melrose as long as we wished to look at irises. "If you steal anything," he joked "I'll never notice, so don't worry." We stayed quite a while, repeating our morning tour and making a videotape to help sustain us through the long Colorado winter.

When we finally turned our car out of the driveway, the sun was high overhead. The temperature had crept into the nineties. We talked about the beautiful flowers we had seen and about how they had come to be. It was apparent that Ben Hager treats iris hybridizing as a fine art. And it is his devotion to perfecting that art that has so enriched the experiences of all iris enthusiasts.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY (Four Issues)

One inch	\$ 37.50	Two-inch	\$ 50.00
Three-inch	\$ 62.50		

DISPLAY ADVERTISING (Single Issue)

One-inch	\$ 30.00	Two-thirds page	\$ 90.00
One-quarter page	\$ 40.00	Three-fourths page	\$100.00
One-third page	\$ 50.00	Full page	\$120.00
One-half page	\$ 70.00		

Full page, color \$240.00 plus color separations

Cover ads \$240.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:

Ms. Kay Nelson-Keppel, Advertising Editor

P.O. Box 18145

Salem, OR 97305

Tel. (503) 391-9241



**Statement of Ownership,
Management and
Circulation**
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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None																	
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A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)		7,630			7,750												
B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales 2. Mail Subscription (Paid and/or requested)		6,244			5,781												
C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)		6,597			6,088												
D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies		45			45												
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11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete		Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Jeane Stayer, Secretary AIS															

**THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONDENSED
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1993**

Cash in Bank, September 30, 1992

Operating Funds	12,583	
Restricted Funds	175,170	187,753

Income, 10-1-92 thru 9-30-93	177,345	
Expense, 10-1-92 thru 9-30-93	- 163,836	<u>201,262</u>

Cash in Bank, September 30, 1993

Operating Funds	21,073	
Restricted Funds	180,189	<u>201,262</u>

Income

Membership Dues		79,117	
Bulletin			
Advertising	19,473		
Back Issues	850		
Other	- 107	20,216	
Registrations		5,501	
Sales			
AIS Publications	30,736		
Other Books & Mdse.	10,649	41,385	
Committees		10,305	
Sections Dues		4,927	
Gifts		7,765	
Earned Interest		6,581	
Other		1,548	<u>177,345</u>

Expense

Bulletin		69,275	
Secretary		1,788	
Membership Secretary		2,728	
Recording Secretary		192	
Registrar		6,751	
Sales Director			
AIS Publications	22,893		
Other Books & Mdse.	11,850		
General Expense	- 1,273	33,470	
Other Officers		810	
Committees		20,295	
RVP Expense		6,937	
Section Dues		5,001	
Accounting & Insurance		7,681	
Other		8,908	<u>163,836</u>

Authorized Salaried Personnel:

Advertising Editor	3,300/yr
Editor	4,200/yr
Membership Secretary	6,600/yr
Registrar-Recorder	<u>3,300/yr</u>

AIS SALES ITEMS

<i>THE WORLD OF IRISES</i>	\$17.50
Edited by Warburton & Hamblen; 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. 494 pages of text; 32 pages full color. Published in 1978 and the most authoritative book on all phases of irises, scientific and popular, 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover.	
<i>HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS</i>	complete ... \$6.00
	pages only ... \$4.00
<i>IRIS SHOW POSTERS</i>	Packet of 6, \$10.00
Promote your show with these full-color posters 11" x 16".	
<i>AIS LAPEL PINS</i>	\$5.00
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin 1/2" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.	
<i>1991 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK</i> . A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses.	\$10.00
<i>1939 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1949 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1959 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1969 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$17.00
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1960-69.	
<i>1979 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$17.00
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970-79.	
<i>1989 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$15.00
Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980-89.	
<i>REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—</i>	
1990	\$4.00
1991	\$5.00
1992	\$5.00
1993	\$5.00
<i>BULLETINS: Back issues, if available</i>	\$3.00
<i>BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS</i>	\$2.50
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.	
<i>AIS SEALS</i>	Pack—\$2.50; 5 Packs—\$10.00
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on a silver background. (50 per pack)	
<i>RHS COLOUR CHARTS</i>	\$45.00
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.	
<i>1994 AIS CALENDAR</i>	\$5.00—10 for \$30.00
<i>INVITATION TO JOIN BROCHURES</i>	in quantities, 8¢ each.
<i>BASIC IRIS CULTURE</i>	\$1.25, 25 for \$15.00

Prices include postage and handling.

Make checks payable to The American Iris Society

Send order to Charles J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132-1808
Phone (918) 445-2222

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual	\$ 12.50	Dual Triennial	37.50
Single Triennial	30.00	Single Life	250.00
Dual Annual	15.50	Dual Life	300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin			3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin			4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual	\$15.00	Dual Annual	\$18.00
Single Triennial	37.50	Dual Triennial	45.00

Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

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TO MOVE ?**



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SECRETARY**

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1994

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1991 through 1994 introductions—mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM winners—1990 through 1993.

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1993 AIS Symposium.

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless—arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1990 OMAHA CONVENTION

1991 WASHINGTON D. C. CONVENTION

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Chairman
Slides Committee
3455 Vallejo Ct.
Colorado Springs, Co 80918

Phone: (719) 598-2024

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Marilyn Holloway, 673 Acacia Ave., Sacramento, CA 95815. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

MELROSE GARDENS

Ben R. Hager

309 Best Road South

Sidney P. DuBose

Stockton, CA 95215

This is our FINAL FAREWELL. No more *farewell* sales lists will be forthcoming—only OUR THANKS and FULL GRATITUDE TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE MADE THE PAST 37 YEARS HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS FOR US. We do hope we have been lucky enough to bring a bit of IRIS SUNSHINE into YOUR LIVES as well. Again, and again and again—**THANK YOU!**

We won't be selling irises anymore, exactly, but no one can keep us out of the seedling patch so long as there is life stirring in our veins. And, yet again, we are lucky . . .

COOLEY'S GARDENS has agreed to introduce our Tall Bearded and Reblooming irises starting in 1995. How lucky can we get?

ADAMGROVE GARDENS is introducing and listing our Dwarf and Median varieties. See their Commercial Directory ad in this *Bulletin*.

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INTRODUCING. . . A fork-like garden stake for lifting & supporting *all* flowers & plants weighted down by . . . heavy blooms . . . moisture from rainstorms . . . or blown over by wind.

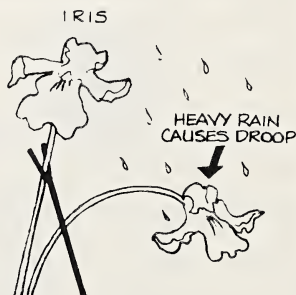
Also to push back overhanging shade to let sun through to flowers.

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- Available in 2 ft. & 3 ft. lengths.
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Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-764-3967

KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. Box 18154

Salem, OR 97305

1994 INTRODUCTIONS

CHEATING HEART (Keppel) TB EM 35" (Rosarita sib X Daredevil) Ruffled melon-pink with flame orange beards flanked by a fine plicata webbing of slate purple. Good branching and bud count. #87-21P \$35.00

FINALIST (Gatty) TB L 35" (Karen X (Tomorrow's Child x (Show Biz x Villain))) Grey-lavender standards flushed pineapple; falls rich ruby to plum, narrowly edged lavender, with small purple blaze. Light ruffles, good branching. #S38-1 \$35.00

MAGIC SHOW (Keppel) TB EM 36" (Rosarita X ((Santana x Anon) x Rustic Dance)) Heavily ruffled plicata blend. Standards rosy russet; falls lemon edged russet, with darker russet maroon hafts. #87-28D \$35.00

MIND READER (Keppel) TB E 36" (((((68-39F: (66-35C: ((Irma Melrose x Tea Apron) x ((Full Circle x Rococo) x Tea Apron)) x April Melody) x 68-39D) x ((Joy Ride x Roundup) x (April Melody x (66-35B x April Melody)))) x (Mistress x Peccadillo sib)) x (Gigolo sib x Rosy Cloud sib)) X sib) Pure luminata. Standards rosy lavender with paler rim; falls pale lavender with strong luminata-wash of velvety violet. Lemon beards sit on pure white area. #2 Favorite Guest Iris at 1993 Texas convention. #86-18B. \$35.00

OVERJOYED (Gatty) TB M 35" (Perfect Interlude X Sunny and Warm) Heavily ruffled near-amoenia. Cream to oyster white standards; falls blending from chrome lemon shoulders to reed yellow, then paling in center. Good branching, good growth, good attitude! #W32-1 \$40.00

RARE OCCASION (Gatty) TB M 36" ((Pretty Lady x ((Louise Watts x Loudoun Charmer) x Playgirl)) X Presence) Broad, lightly ruffled and laced peach pink, with falls overlapping at the hafts, shirred and ruffled down the sides. Beards lavender-pink at tips, changing to pinkish orange and tile red in the flower heart. Excellent branching. #T23-6 \$35.00

SPIRIT WORLD (Keppel) TB EM 36" (Mind Reader sib) Favorite Guest Iris (137 votes) at the 1993 National Convention in Texas. Medium reddish orchid standards with smoky-buff margins. Velvety red-purple falls with slightly lighter luminata veining, plus a narrower smoky buff-edge. Beards reddish-orange, sitting in an ivory circle. Strikingly different, with its dark petals and ghostly paler aura. Three branches and terminal, double sockets. #86-18D \$40.00

SPRING SHOWER (Keppel) TB EM 36" ((Vivien x Battle Fury) X (Skyblaze x Swirling Seas)) Chicory to gentian blue standards; blue-white falls soon paling to white. Prominent sunshine yellow beards. Almost an over-abundance of buds at times. #87-97C \$25.00

LOW SPIRITS (Keppel) BB EM 26" (((((68-39F x 68-39D) x 74-52A: ((Joy Ride x Roundup) x (April Melody x (66-35B x April Melody)))) x (Mistress x Peccadillo sib)) x (Goddess x (Mistress sib x 74-52A))) X (Gigolo sib x Rosy Cloud sib)) A shorter, paler Spirit World variation. Pale salmon-buff standards suffused soft rosy purple. Prunella purple falls with slightly paler veining and narrow buff edge on sides. Pale creamy orange to tangerine beards, flower heart warm white to soft orange. #87-60A \$20.00

FIREBUG (Gatty) IB VL 26" (Jazzmatazz X Smart Aleck) Bright clear yellow standards, strong red falls with narrow yellow rim. #W38-2 \$15.00

Please add \$3.50 for shipping and handling. Catalogue available for \$1.00, deductible from first order.

IT'S BORDER TIME!

MARGARET BEAUFORT (Sdlg. L86-BK-8). BB, 23" ML. Violet self often with rosy tints. Darker texture veining. Slightly flaring falls. Lemon beards, turning gold in throat. Easily podded, 5 buds. Crossed to its 5-budded sibling, it produced plants with 5 to 9 buds. Named for Lady Margaret Beaufort (mother of Henry VII) at the request of an English friend. She was a short lady, too. Louise Hopper X Miss Nellie \$20.00

Also Available

SUN SPRITE (L. Burton '93). SDB. Perky yellow bitone \$8.00

BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '92). MTB. Brown-gold blend.
..... \$8.00

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3 hours Judges Training on Japanese Irises
- On: FEBRUARY 19-20, 1994
Saturday—Pot Luck/Panel—5:30 P.M.
Sunday—Judges Training—9:00 A.M. - Noon

Brought to you by the:

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THE SOONER STATE IRIS SOCIETY

is pleased to announce the fifteenth annual

POLLEN DAUBERS' SEMINAR

April 29 to May 1, 1994

featuring

BARRY BLYTH

Pearcedale, Victoria, Australia

Our speaker will speak to the Society on April 29 following a 6:30 p.m. pot luck. Pollen Daubers' sessions will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on April 30 (\$20.00 per person). Show on May 1. For assistance, contact:

Dr. William E. Jones

2312 Butternut Place

Edmond, OK 73013

or come to Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 N.W. 36th, Oklahoma City
Phone (405) 478-3498

ARILIA ACRES

Howard Shockey

4611 Rio Grande Lane, NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107

1994 INTRODUCTIONS

Pictured on Inside Front Cover

QUEEN'S VIOLET (H. Shockey) TB M 37". This is not just another blue-violet, violet-blue or violet-purple, but a pure spectrum violet (RHS 88B). Beautifully formed with broad, ruffled, classic semi-flaring falls with even color saturation throughout. Clean hafts and blue-violet beards colored down to the base. Hardy, fine plant habits, strong stalks, show-stalk branching, good bud count and flower substance—all contributing to making this a connoisseur's iris \$35.00

DESERT FURY (H. Shockey) AB 1/2 (OGB) 30". Very strong grower with better branching than most 1/2-breds—often three well-spaced blossoms open at once. Dark mulberry-red self matching beards. Extensive red-black signals on upper portion with wide lower dark red banding—a new trait! \$25.00

SHEBA'S JEWEL (H. Shockey) AB 1/2 (OGB) 28". Beautiful, broad, rounded white with slight maroon flushing on style arms and base of stds. Falls have good recurve with large crescent-shaped signal of maroon-purple. Good performer. From two fine parents: Seraph's Jewel and Queen Sheba—a real jewel! \$25.00

Previous Introductions—Tall Bearded

NORDIC ICE '93. Very large, vigorous white with blue flushing and blue beards frosted white. Falls are semi-flaring and very rounded. Flowers have exceptional substance and are supported by husky, strong stalks and plants \$22.00

ORANGE EMBERS '93. Bright medium dark orange with vibrant orange-red beards. Central areas of standards are rose blending to pink. Very strong, prolific grower and bloomer with up to 11 buds \$22.00

LOVE BLUSH '91. Peach and white beauty with pink-flushed standards and orange-red beards. Show stalk branching \$13.00

Previous Introductions—Arilbred

ATTEN '93 AB 1/2 (OGB). Orchid-violet and rose-violet tones. Recurving falls have extra large near-black signals and broad onco-type beards. \$18.00

DESERT SANDS '93 AB 1/2 (OGB). Rose-orchid standards with buff falls overlaid rose. Large sharp brown-black signals \$18.00

QUEEN SHEBA '93 1/2 (OGB). Pale orchid-violet standards with pale buff falls. Very large sharp burgundy signals \$18.00

SERAPH'S JEWEL '92 AB 1/2 (OGB). Pristine white with sharp greyed-maroon signals \$14.00

TURKISH HERALD '92 AB 1/2 (OGB). Orchid-violet standards with buff falls. Large sharp dark signals \$14.00

NO CATALOG

Prepaid AIRMAIL shipment—July 15 to August 15

STOCKTON IRIS GARDENS

(Formerly Cottage Gardens)

NEW FOR 1994



PRINCE OF TIDES (James McWhirter, 1994) \$35.00
J81-74: (Winterscape x Sky Gem) X Busy Being Blue.

NOTE: Stockton Iris Gardens will continue the quality personal service, the generous bonus program, the informative catalog, the warranty obligations, and the fine introductions, including the award winning creations of James McWhirter (who will continue in his role as President), Don Denney, Larry Lauer, Bob Brown, Vernon Wood, and other regular/guest hybridizers, that customers of Cottage Gardens enjoyed.

Existing customers of Cottage Gardens will automatically receive the 1994 catalog. Otherwise, free catalog is available on request by writing: **STOCKTON IRIS GARDENS**

209/462-8106

Box 55195

Stockton, CA 95205

PREPARE YOURSELF TO BE



OVERJOYED

(Gatty 1994)

\$40.00

(Perfect Interlude X Sunny and Warm)

*Please add \$3.50 for shipping
Catalogue \$1.00, refundable with order*

KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. Box 18154

Salem, OR 97305



1	CARDS			4	NIGHT LIGHT—ON/OFF SWITCH	JB2404-O	\$10.50
A	AE392-BK (BLANK)				NIGHT LIGHT—AUTO SENSOR	JB2404-A	\$12.50
B	LARGE PUR IRIS	\$1.50		5	SILK TIE	RM101	\$28.00
	IC90318 'SINCERE SYMPATHY'				'VAN GOGH'S IRISES'		
C	VASE/PALE SIB	\$1.50		6	COASTERS		
	AE222-BK (BLANK) AE222-E (EASTER)				4 CORK-BACKED COASTERS	OE6-1007	\$10.00
	AE222-MD (MOTHERS DAY)			7	MAGNETS		
D	IRIS W/BUD	DISCONTINUED			3-D RAISED IRIS	OCP6-13	\$5.00
E	RABBIT / GARDEN	\$1.50					
	AE390-BK (BLANK)						
F	BRIGHT BLUE	\$1.75					
	NS-2-BK (BLANK) NS-2-BD (BIRTHDAY)						
	NS-2-MD (MOTHERS DAY) NS-2-TY (THANK YOU)						
G	IRIS/DAISIES	IC88218	\$1.50		TELL THE WORLD YOU ARE JUST CRAZY ABOUT IRISES WITH		
	'ANOTHER ANIVERSARY. STILL IN LOVE'				'JUST CRAZY ABOUT' (JCA) EXCLUSIVE '94 LIMITED ITEMS		
H	PUR/LAV IRIS	\$1.50		8	WRAP AROUND PHOTO IRIS MUG	JCA101	\$12.00
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I	PUR IRIS FIELD	\$1.50		9	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE TEE SHIRT	JCA103	\$15.00
	AE432-BK(BLANK) AE432-BD (BIRTHDAY)			9	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE SWEAT SHIRT	JCA104	\$25.00
J	BLUE/ORANGE CLUMP	\$1.75		9	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE TOTE BAG	JCA105	\$12.00
	NS-16-BK (BLANK) NS-16-BD(BIRTHDAY)				appx 14x13x3"-printed area appx 9x9,100% cotton duck cloth		
	NS-16-MD (MOTHERS DAY) NS-16-GW (GET WELL)			10	CANDLE LIGHT		\$17.00
K	BLACK CAT/IRIS	\$1.75			INCLUDES CUP & CANDLE		
	NC-05-BK (BLANK), NC-05-BD (BIRTHDAY)			11	SUNCATCHERS		
	NC-05-TY (THANK YOU), NC-05-TK (THINKING)			A	SMALL OVAL—LAVENDER	JB1815	\$9.00
2	MEDLEY OF IRIS			B	MEDIUM OVAL—LAVENDER	JB1321	\$14.00
	TEE SHIRT (MED, LG, X-LG)	SG562-T	\$15.00	C	LARGE OVAL—BLUE	JB1218	\$19.00
	SWEAT SHIRT (MED, LG, X-LG)	SG562-S	\$25.00	D	MEDIUM CIRCLE—BLUE/LAV	JB1704	\$10.50
3	WRAPPING PAPER (BY THE FOOT)			E	LARGE CIRCLE—LAVENDER	JB1122	\$18.00
	30" WIDE - MINIMUM 3 FEET LONG			F	LARGE OVAL—LAVENDER	JB1219	\$19.00
		\$1.50					
	EACH ADDITIONAL CONTINUOUS FOOT	\$0.50					

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Please send us your ideas and suggestions.

WE Love hearing from you.

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Every effort is made for this catalog to be accurate. If an occasional printing error occurs, we reserve the right to bill at the correct price.

KNEE—DEEP IN JUNE

708 North 10th • St. Joseph, MO 64501

Mavis Waves (Jameson 94) M 34''-38''.....\$30.00

1-88-A (Sophistication x Graduation)

Mrs. Hamblen encouraged this cross, we are glad she did. laced pink standards and style crests, faint violet infusion, flaring blue lavender falls edged with lavender lace, cream to orange to blue violet beards.

My Mauve (Jameson 94) M 36''-40''.....\$30.00

19-87 (Song of Spring x (Cabaret Royale x Son of Star))

laced rosy mauve standards, style crests and narrow full edge, lavender falls, rose maroon haft intensification on cream, cream beard with faint purple line and lots of orange. Dodo Denney provided the name.

Traitor (Jameson 94) EM 30''-34''.....\$30.00

4-88 (Gift of Dreams x Contrite)

soft bluish green bitone blend, navy violet beards tipped bronze, some purple in the attractive blue green foilage.

Selected Japanese, Louisiana and Siberian Iris
collected pseudacorus from Donna Aldridge

CATALOG — \$1.00



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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

JUDGES FOR 1994

The letter preceding the judge's name designates the type of judge;
(A)—Apprentice; (G)—Fully Accredited; (AM)—Active Master; (RM)—Retired Master; and (E)—Emeritus. An asterisk (*) denotes the region's RVP.

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 G Victoria Sibell
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 RM Mildred Stover
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 E Robert Schreiner
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 G Roberta Shoop
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 G Stephen Stevens
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BELGIUM

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ENGLAND

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 M N.K. Scopes

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 M Dr. Jean Segui

GERMANY

G Rainer Zeh
 E Helen Vonstein-Zeppelin

JAPAN

M Akira Honnaka

ITALY

M Prof. Gian Luigi Sani

A CALIFORNIA VISIT AT BLOOMTIME

Phil Williams (Tennessee)

Having grown up a farmboy, I suppose it is only natural for me to enjoy playing in the dirt. While meetings and iris shows rate regular participation, it is GROW-ING irises that I enjoy most.

A retailer by profession, I often find that the national convention conflicts with important selling days. This makes the trip to national impractical, as it did this year in Fort Worth. Not to be disappointed, I opted to fly west to Region 14 (Northern California) to enjoy iris bloom there.

Unlike many varietal comment articles, I choose not to list every variety that appears in bloom, but rather to make mention of only those varieties which are truly outstanding. If there are weaknesses or faults in any mentioned variety, they will be clearly noted. Most of these varieties I consider to be well worth the introductory price. (Think about all that work the poor hybridizers exert, i.e. pollinating, collecting seed, sowing seed, lining out seedlings, selecting and reselecting, evaluating, increasing stock, advertising, digging, and shipping!!)

One unexpected discovery this spring was the appearance of new varieties with exceptionally high bud count. And since many hybridizers are releasing such varieties, I suspect we can expect low bud count to go the way of the horse and buggy. It was in these gardens that I learned there is no truth to rumors that the last buds to open cannot produce normal flowers.

Maryott's Gardens in San Jose was the first stop. Bill Maryott and Marilyn Harlow are both energetic workers, and there are always droves of people standing in line to give cash and orders to the sales clerks.

NORDICA (Maryott '93) was my pick of their new introductions. The strong stalks with 2 branches and spur consistently carry 7 buds that develop into lovely, pristine white flowers with deep red beards, and the wide and robust foliage is remarkable for this color class. I also liked Bill's SILKEN SHADOWS ('93) with smoky blue standards and darker veining; violet black falls have violet rims. Four branches, strong stalks and really showy! YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner '92) was another variety with wonderful, wide foliage. Here we have "weight lifter" stalks with great "biceps" (branching) displaying big, ruffled mid-blue flowers with paler infusions; 7 buds consistently. CREME D'OR (Blyth '88) has bright golden standards painted white on the upper half; white falls are bordered with the same golden yellow; matching gold beards. Prolific growth, very bright color, but only 6 buds per stalk. GO AROUND (Mary Dunn '83) is still lovely! Not-too-wide branching displays super-formed palest violet plicata flowers with the cleanest peppering imaginable. (Here its growth was too vigorous). HIGH FALUTIN (Mary Dunn '84) is another old favorite that was just superb. Full lavender self (almost no one is working in this color class) and a color only found in irises! Tall and strong stalks with great branching support large, clean, wonderfully-formed flowers that are borne with profusion. Probably the wildest variety yet observed (colorwise, that is) was HELLO HOBO (Blyth '88). Lemon yellow standards were edged darker yellow and ribbed with violet; golden brown falls were

splotched with mid to dark brown. Healthy plants produce many, many stalks with 3 branches, a spur and 7 plus buds. CITOYEN (Anfosso '89) was another that I liked. Apricot standards; matching falls are bordered and then more widely stained plum; deep orange beards. Stalks with wide branching and spur consistently produce 7 buds. TWILIGHT BLAZE (Keppel '93) was a "wow" variety here and in 3 other gardens. It is a smoky plum to purple with the hottest, fizziest red-orange beards yet seen! Easily yields 7 buds on 3 branches. FAINT PRAISE (Keppel '92) appears to have pale orchid standards until you notice that faint pink plicating. White falls have fuschia peppering at the hafts and faint orchid plicata edges. Good stalks with 2 branches, a spur and 7-9 buds, always. Nice! There was this unforgettable, tall, "burnt cantelope" orange with 8+ buds, 3 branches and spur with brown-blushed hafts and rusty orange beards on a super smooth flower—but, the proprietors were much too busy for me to barge in and obtain correct identification. I also liked Bill's DANCE HALL DOLLY ('93). Some might think her gaudy with mid rose-violet standards that are veined darker and deep wine purple falls with orchid pink edges; tangerine beards. Well branched, but unfortunately, short on buds. ACOMA (Magee '90) looked better than I have ever seen it—very clean and distinct patterning—still with only 5 buds. Don Denney's ROLE MODEL ('88) is my all time favorite from this breeder. Its unique color combo (peachy tan standards, rosy melon falls, tangerine beards) shines from across the garden . . . and it always blooms with abandon. There are more and more yellow amoenas appearing, and I had suspected that ALPINE JOURNEY was the deepest with best contrast. No more! WINGS OF GOLD (Maryott '91) was the winner hands down!! Strong stalks with 2 branches and spur with 7 buds that open into well formed flowers with nearly white standards and full yellow falls. (I was so impressed that I now have 3 plants of it!)

Walt Dabel grows superb plants of all kinds, but none exceed his tall bearded irises! Though increase was sadly sparse everywhere we saw it, APLOMB (Ghio '92) did have huge, gorgeous, voluptuous flowers in smoky raspberry with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds per stalk. SESSIONS (Cowdery '92) is a lovely white with pale lavender tints; orange beards are surrounded by buff thumbprints and hafts. Too tall for Tennessee wind and rain, but consistently produced 8 buds with 3 branches. TWILIGHT BLAZE (Keppel '92) was again super here, though a bit shorter. MUCH OBLIGED (Hager '92) was wonderful here and everywhere we saw it! Big, husky full medium blue with wide parts (touching to overlapping hafts), 3 branches, 7-8 buds and wonderful foliage and plant growth. Just what an iris should be! MESMERIZER (Byers '91) was too tall, but its huge white flowers with tangerine beards ride on wide, wide flounces that surely get one's attention; 7 buds and 3 branches. In three different gardens I saw a Monty Byers seedling, #F541, and it was outstanding! Open standards are sky blue; falls are dark blue-violet sporting bright red beards that end in violet horns. Three branches and 7-8 buds, always. GODSEND (Byers '89) looked luscious with pink standards and near white falls with darker pink hafts; tangerine beards end in purple horns; 7 buds, 3 branches. CONJURATION (Byers '89) was too tall—almost eye level. Pale blue standards are stained darker on edges; white falls have wide, DARK violet borders; red beards end in white horns. Three branches, a spur, 8-9 buds and a real knockout. NEPTUNE'S CLOAK (Hager '92) is a lovely, frothy, ruffled

light blue with super fine form, 3 branches and 7 buds. (I wrote to the introducer for "how to buy" information, but there was no response.) MAGIC WORLD (Hager) is such a pretty, ultra-wide, very rounded, sculpted violet wonder; two branches and spur producing 7 buds. Lynda Miller seedling #6087A is deep burgundy wine with purple fall flashes and mustard beards. Very nice with 2 branches, spur and 7 buds. (Husky plants too!) CLASSICO (Gartman '84) rivals the very best of recent introductions. Lovely, crinkled lemon yellow with cream petal centers. Three branches, a spur and 9-10 buds on each and every stalk! ESMERALDA (Ghio '88) is such a pretty, super ruffled, deep orange with red beards. Two branches, spur and 7 buds are produced consistently. SILVERADO (Schreiniers '87) was super in every way. Perfectly formed flowers on faultless stalks with good bud count, impressive foliage and good plant growth.

Nathan Wright's Iris Nursery is out in the country, and it is irises for acres and acres! DEVITA MARIE (Hedgecock '92) is a pretty, citrusy peach with cream highlights; very wide flower parts and red beards. Two branches, a spur and 6-7 buds per stalk. May be Jim's best. APLOMB (Ghio '92) was lovely again. Wide, deep, intense mulberry-wine color as yet unseen. (Here I noticed the beard hairs are actually tipped rust.) Perfectly formed flowers, 3 branches, a spur, 7 buds and better plant increase here. There were three Ghio cultivars grown side by side that really caught my eye, and each had only 2 increases per plant. QUITO ('93) is a wonderful deep burnt orange with sandlewood tints and deep sienna beards. Three branches, a spur and a dozen (Yep! count 'em!) buds. Joe's seedling #8971L has deep pink standards with gold filigree edges; pearl falls have pink lacy edges. Three branches, a spur, 7 buds and lovely, lovely form and coloration. Another Ghio seedling, #88161K, was yet another with twelve (12!) buds, 4 branches and spur. the flowers are mid raspberry with blue sprays emanating from the matching beards. Nice! TEMPTING (Ghio '93) showed only one increase and close branching, but there were lovely flowers with orchid standards infused plum; bright burgundy falls have lacy edges. PULSE RATE DATE (Burseen) is big and husky. It has been quite some time since a big, blousy wine plicata has had my approval, but this one does! Wide rounded falls have orange beards and at least 7 buds on every 3-branched stalk. Really nice. TOO TOO RIPE (Burseen) was most unusual with standards that are marbled with flesh and dusty rose; falls are rose watermelon with beige veins; gold orange beards surrounded with white sprays. Two branches, a spur, and 7 buds on every stalk. (Once again the Byers seedling #F541 was making quite a splash. This was the only time it was viewed in a clump, and the tangled stalks really took away from its presentation.) CHELSEA'S DREAM (Fillmore '90) is registered as a border bearded, but here it was very large and very lovely! Ruffled, flaring and pretty in silvery lavender with white fall areas. Two branches, a spur and at least 8 buds per stalk. WENCH (Lynda Miller '93) has flesh pink standards; dark wine falls are velvet finished; orange beards with white haft venations. Attractive, unique and distinctive with two branches, a spur and 7 buds. AMADEUS (Tompkins '88) is pale lavender with soft tangerine beards. Two wide branches and spur on strong stalks with 7 buds (always). GARDEN ESCORT (Hager '91) is great! It's a vivid metallic violet with blue tints and overlays, rusty red beards and lacy petal edges! Three branches, 8 buds and one I did obtain from sources other than the

introducer. SMILING GOLD (Ernst '91) has golden yellow standards with pearl falls heavily flushed violet with wide golden rims. A real knockout! Four to five branches and 9-12 buds. A magnificent creation! FEMININE FIRE (Ernst '91) is another superb creation! This ultra ruffled flower is coral to peach with heavy pink influences; soft coral orange beards. Seven buds, 2 branches, a spur and many, many flowers per clump. Luscious! PEACH LUSTRE (Hamner '82) is an oldie, but it looked like one of the very latest. Wide, wide flowers in luscious peach with ruffled, flaring flowers of exceptional form on stalks with 3 branches, a spur, 8 buds—all displayed on fabulously growing plants!

Who could go to Region 14 and not seek out Virginia Messick's seedlings?! Her home is a lovely "country in the city" setting, and her garden is a sea of iris colors! Her new VOLTAGE ('93) was blooming its head off with well formed flowers in quantity heretofore unseen in orange irises. (Who says Californians don't grow irises in clumps? Most of the plants here were in clumps and everything was simply gorgeous!) As one walks row upon row of fabulous seedlings, he or she might begin to think that hybridizing is easy. Not so! Her reverse blue amoena lines are so good that I do not know how she makes a selection. Two Schreiner irises here got high ratings. HELLO DARKNESS ('92) had only 5 buds on a first-year plant, but the form, size and intensity as well as smoothness of color in dark, dark violet purple was most notable. SIERRA GRANDE ('92) has the jauntiest, perkier form ever in blue amoenas. Snow white standards; full blue falls are white on the reverse, resulting in ruffled petals that appear boldly bordered in white. Nice form, 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds per stalk. LUCILLE RICHARDSON (Gerald Richardson '92) was lovely here, but even lovelier in Tennessee. Big, huge, wide, ruffled flowers have white standards and deep orchid falls. Wide foliage, just right increase, 3 branches and 7 buds. (Imagine what is yet to come from this new and talented hybridizer!)

I actually made two visits to the Keppel garden; the return visit found both Kay and Keith at home. (Kay's lemonade and brownies hit the spot!) The first iris I saw was OVERJOYED (Gatty '94). The flowers are perfectly and magnificently formed with wide petals that are ultra ruffled and pleated. Palest ivory standards and light yellow falls. Stalks with 3 branches consistently have 8 buds and rise from husky, lovely-foliaged plants. MOGUL (Ghio '92) has dusty rose standards with falls that are matching but with heavy, honey-yellow overlays and brown rims. Orange beards give this muted flower "just right" pizzazz, but all stalks had only 5 or 6 buds. PEACE AND HARMONY (Ghio '92) is the finest Ghio creation I have seen—and it was good everywhere! Perfectly formed and ruffled near royal blue with well branched stalks and at least 8 buds per stalk. Healthy, clean plants. It was good to see so many pretty Ghio flowers again. STRATAGEM (Ghio '89) appears to me as flesh to warm beige with wine haft prints and orange beards. Great stalks had 3 branches, 2 spurs, and 7-9 buds each. Quite nice. TEMPERENCE (Maryott '91) had very low bud count but was notable for its mauve color and gilt edging on all petals that widen to small borders on the falls. TUMBLIN' DICE (R. Nelson '90) is a wonderful pastel. The standards are pale blue lavender and the orchid falls deepen to violet at the edges. Red beards, 7 buds, 2 branches, a spur and good plant growth. Extraordinary! VIGILANTE (Schreiners '91) as a photograph did not excite me. In bloom it is actually a deep

red (not dull or purplish) variegata with very ruffled flowers. It has strong stalks with 3 branches, a spur, 8 buds and ultra healthy plants. Stronger than most in this color class and no tendencies to bloom out! WINGS OF GOLD (Maryott '91) was again fine—and my notes indicate that it is not pale—and much deeper than LUCKY LEMON. Eight buds per stalk, consistently. BADGE OF GOLD (Evelyn Kegerise '89) is as good in California as it is in Tennessee. Intense, wide, flaring and ruffled flowers in bright gold. Most overlooked and there is none more intensely colored. Wide bladed foliage and healthy plants. CHER (R. Nelson '91) was bright and lovely and was in bloom in many gardens. Deep violet with bright red beards, it is well branched and a great garden performer. ELIZABETH POLDARK (Robert Nichol '90) is an English import—as fine as any American creation and better than most! Doubly ruffled cream with lemon infusions, the flowers are magnificent and gracefully positioned on stalks with 3 branches and spur; they seem to dance like butterflies—no tangling or bumping into each other—and always 8 buds per stalk. GODSEND (Byers '89) was again showing off. . . pink shades with purple horns and orange beards. Only 5-6 buds per stalk. PERFECT PITCH (Gatty '92) is a deep, dark violet with abundant stalk production. Two branches, a spur and 7 buds on every stalk. Ruffled, sultry and nice! CONFESSION (Keppel '92) has wide, fluted white flowers with pleasing orange beards. If you like 3 open blooms per stalk, this is for you. Three branches, a spur and 8+ buds on every stalk.

Off to South Sacramento and Roris Gardens. Here, I spent most of my time in a small area in the right front quadrant where plants were grown fabulously. My want list was long here as well, but I got no response to my letter of inquiry. HIGH TECH (Hager '93) has perfect, ruffled form with mid-to-light blue standards; falls are near white with soft yellow beards. Three open flowers per stalk, 3 branches, a spur, 7 buds and good plant growth. LAMBADA (Gartman '93) is a smooth, soft orange flower with great garden effect. Rather rumply form, but fiery red beards, 4 branches and 9-10 buds. FROSTICO (Gartman '92) has pale peach standards; ivory falls are bordered peach; pale orange beards. Flaring, ruffled flowers with great form on stalks with 2 branches and a spur; sadly, only 6 buds per stalk. Lovely blossoms. SNOWBELT (Keppel '92) has white standards and falls, but there is a full, wide, violet plicata border on the falls and darker violet hafts with crisp white beards. Three branches, a spur and 8 buds on every stalk. Really a grand creation! GLACIER KISS (Black '91) I really fell for! Georgia Hinkle's SOUTHERN COMFORT was always a favorite of mine, and this is a near-perfect remake with updated flower form. Lemony standards, ivory falls and huge yellow beards. Fabulously husky plants, big and billowy flowers appear on stalks with 3 branches, a spur and 10 buds (I do like good bud count.) There was a short row of SUNKISS with crisply formed flowers with golden yellow standards and white falls blending to deep golden yellow at the petal edges; deep gold beards. Three branches, a spur, but only 6 buds. (I did note that its garden location left much to be desired.) A LA ORANGE (Gartman) is positively the best orange I have ever seen! Standards are deep melon with peach blendings; falls are orange with bright yellow overlays; deep orange beards. Flaring, ruffled, near perfectly formed flowers are crisp and graceful. The overall garden effect is bright to intense and there are 3 branches and 7 buds on every stalk. Husky foliage and luxuriant

growth habits. Look for it! JE TAMIE (Gartman) must be another future introduction. Huge white flowers with bright red beards appeared on a few plants in an eroded area. The foliage was lovely and the increase good. Stalks had only 2 branches, a spur, and 6 buds, but it deserved a better location.

On to Cottage Gardens in Wilton. James and Abe can wear out the most seasoned irisarian walking the rows and rows of plants to be found here. In the display garden, LION'S SHARE (Mitch Jameson '92) exhibited near-perfect plant growth and floriferousness indescribable! This bitone has light yellow standards and ivory falls (it's usually the other way around); there is no other color. Pure, clean, magnificently formed flowers on stalks with three branches that are ramrod strong. A tremendous introduction from a new Missouri hybridizer. SUNRAY REFLECTION (Ernst '92) was gorgeous! Mellow yellow standards and white falls with matching borders and hafts. Two branches, a spur and 7 buds. Carved, spectacular form and good plant growth. (Possibly Rick's best.) CALM SEA (Hager '92) is a billowy light blue with wide parts, lots of ruffles, 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. Perfect in every way. GREAT GATSBY (McWhirter '94) is large, attractive and really got my attention. Violet blue standards and plush violet falls; wide, ruffled flowers on stalks with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. A real garden bonanza! James also had a reverse blue amoena seedling, #J89-104, that I liked VERY much. Stalks have 3 branches and every one had 8 buds; plants were exceptionally healthy. ABBEY ROAD (Silverberg '84) has flowers of near perfect form, very flaring and abundantly ruffled. Pale creamy yellow standards; chiseled ivory falls and yellow beards. Three branches, 8 buds and all flower parts are crisply held. MOGUL (Ghio) again had magnificent color, but here every plant bloomed with not a single increase. PEACE AND HARMONY (Ghio) was tremendous, again! Just right increase, heavy bloom (no bloom out) . . . one of the real attention getters here, too. PINK STARLET (V. Wood '93) is a tall, pale powder pink with dusky tangerine beards. Two branches, a spur and 7 buds per stalk. So pretty! SKYLIFT (J. Browne '93) is a really lovely iris, and there was no indication of "uplifted" falls. Soft, pale, frothy blue with violet tints. Flared, ruffled flowers with classy form are on stalks with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. VOLTAGE (Messick '93) was again showing its great orange color, and it is unsurpassed for quantity of bloom. Good plant growth and great performance everywhere. BOXWINK'S GOLDEN DREAM (Steinhauer '93) is the first introduction from Winkie in several years. The flowers are big, wide, ruffled and have flaring candelabra branching. It is soft yellow; falls are water-colored with pale grey washes. Tremendous growth, heavy bloom and a fine garden iris. PACIFIC DESTINY (Lauer '93) is full military blue with starchy, ruffled, wide flowers, rounded falls appearing on strong stalks with 3 branches, a spur and 8+ buds. The flowers have a colorless translucent edging which adds to its attractiveness. (No, *show* judges, the flowers are *not* fading!) A heavy bloomer with wide foliage and good plant growth. BUSY SIGNAL (Lauer '93) is a darker and more refined version of some earlier brown Hamner variegatas. This has deep tan standards; falls overlaid almost totally cayenne red; bronzy beards surrounded by paler ray patterns. Ruffled flowers on good stalks with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. Good growth and nice, clean foliage. FORGE FIRE (Ernst '91) was a most pleasant surprise! Pretty, wide red flowers with gold beards on strong

stalks with 3 branches and 8 buds. A really fine new red.

Heading to North Sacramento to Bob and Mary Dunn's, the first to catch my eye was POETIC (Ghio '92). Orange standards; white falls bordered in orange; tangerine beards. Two branches, a spur, 7 buds and good increase. DUNSMUIR (Bob Brown '92) was as impressive here as it is back home. Tall, dark purple with white beards. Three branches, a spur, a second spur grows off a lower branch and there are 10 buds. FRESH AIR (Hager '92) is a pale blue with intense crinkling and wonderful, flaring form. Stalks have 3 branches and 7 buds. (Color and form do not resemble their introductory catalog photo.) Mary's seedling #M87-1027-1 was my pick of her re-selects. It is a gigantic pink of very wide, flaring form. Stalks have 2 branches but only 6 buds. It was here that I got to see RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93) showing off her GO AROUND heritage. A pretty pastel plicata, much paler than the photo, with good branching and really nice looking last flowers on the stalk. There was also a very nice Mullin seedling in yellow here, numbered 84-455M. (A future introduction?) Over to Fred Kerr's garden . . . and . . . talk about fabulously grown plants! I have *never* seen such consistent, abundant bloom from row to row, clump to clump and variety to variety. He really knows how to grow irises! This new hybridizer has three good ones for '93. MAGIC RAIMENT was showing its MOON'S DELIGHT heritage, and it is a complement to its parents. GLACIER SPRING and KEVIN'S THEME are both children of EDITH WOLFORD. The former is a quality blue amoena and the latter is a blended bicolor. (Well, actually, I guess it is a lavender bitone) with yellow fall borders. Pretty! It was here that I again noticed Hager's MUCH OBLIGED. Wide, fluted flower parts with perfectly formed blue flowers on great stalks with buds galore. Great growth, too.

South to Stockton again. It was here at Melrose Gardens that KATHLEEN KAY NELSON (Hager '93) was taking center stage (the iris, not the lady). I had heard raves two weeks earlier on its performance here, but it was still blooming heavily. Super wide foliage, 11 buds (and I was seeing the final flowers of perfect form), stalks with 3 branches and 2 spurs, and magnificent dark violet-blue flowers with perfect form. WIND OF CHANGE (Hager '93) has hafts that touch! Heavily ruffled light blue flowers on stalks with 3 branches and 8 buds. Very nice! The flower quality on this is equal to any new introduction. One of Ben's seedlings that I especially liked was #T5434. It is an antique white with beige veining and lavender flushes throughout the standards; falls are full violet with darker centers and paler edges; white beards are orange in the throat. Large flowers, vigorous plants and coloration I have never before seen. A hop, skip and ride back to the Keppel Garden . . . which has since relocated to Oregon. But there were no signs that this garden was in transition for it appeared to be a permanent planting! CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiners '92) has the most precise pleating of all plicatas. Its lovely flowers are on stalks with 3 branches, a spur, and 9 buds. Nothing like it! INDIGO PRINCESS (Schreiners '92) is very fine! Dark, wide, flaring, ruffled flowers on stalks with 3 branches, a spur, 9 buds and wide foliage with purple bases. BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols '93) is different! Near white standards; white falls are overlaid violet, appearing to be washed with clorox; grape shoulders. Big flowers are wide and ruffled with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. SNOWBELT (Keppel '92) is excellent, definitely the best of type

since EMMA COOK. It is white with dark violet borders only on the falls and surrounding areas at the beard. Wide, wonderful foliage; stalks have 3 branches, a spur and 8 buds. MOGUL (Ghio) again had very scant increase, but the intense toasted rose coloration was incredible! RUMBLESEAT (Innerst '92) was good here, but it is even better back east. Ruffled, smoky plum violet plicata with clean patterning and flaring form. Two branches and a spur in California, but an extra branch and plenty of buds at home. Pretty! PERFECT DOLL (Hager '91) was white with red beards. The branching was wide though the increase was sparse. Very ruffled flowers with 2 branches, spur and 7 buds. Crisply formed white flowers with red beards. Classy! I noticed CHER (R. Nelson) again. Very bright, especially in the afternoon sun. FLYBY (L. Powell '85) is an improved RINGO. It has white standards with gilt edging; rose violet falls have paler borders, orange beards. Two close branches, a spur and 7 buds. Good growth and very wide foliage. One of the most impressive things I saw was a near black plicata seedling of Keith's, the darkest I have seen since STEPPING OUT. Flared, ruffled flowers are white with dark and fabulous plicating all around. Stalks have 3 branches, a spur and 7+ buds. Watch for it! Another of Keith's seedlings, #88-63A, is the darkest pink (rosy mauve?) plicata coloring I've encountered; rusty orange beards. Four branches, a spur and 10 generous buds! Seedling #8656A has rose wine standards and the deeper falls have wide, bronzy gold beards. It is very large and colorful with 2 branches, a spur and 7 buds. OVERJOYED (Gatty '94) on this visit revealed more intense ruffling than I noticed a day earlier. (See how important repeat garden visits are!) Ruffling is a wonderful addition to the yellow amoena class; two branches, a spur, 8 buds, and excellent plant growth. Seedling #86-27D was the best branched iris of the season. A lovely ruffled peach with orange beards, the fluted and wide flowers are just tremendous; stalks have 3 branches, a spur and 10 wonderful buds. An extra nice creation! Joe Gatty's #X45-4 was a 2-year clump with crisp, ruffled pink flowers with slightly open standards and soft orange beards; each stalk had 3 branches with 7-8 buds. WHITE HEAT (Keppel '93) is a ruffled and pleated white with red orange beards. There was a spur and 8 buds. FROSTING (Gatty '93) is palest pink with mauve tints; beards are brushed with soft melon. A lovely pastel with very heavy bloom, 3 branches, a spur and 9 buds. LACE LEGACY (Greenwood '92) is a soft *lacy* orange with white fall overlays and tangerine beards. Sadly, there were only 5 buds per stalk.

Back home, there were many good irises, but that is another story. A few varieties worth mentioning that are not repeats of California observations would include BORN TO EXCEED (R. Nelson '93) a large and wide blue-violet neglecta with great stalks, 3 branches, a spur and 8+ buds. TIMBERWIND (Burch '92) is an ultra-tall, but strong-stalked, pale ivory yellow that really is a show off, and Jimmy's upcoming OLD MONEY is one of the brightest and deepest gold colorations in irises. BERTWISTLE (Innerst '90) continues its winning ways with precision yellow borders on bright white flowers. BOBBIE ALLEN (J. R. Allen) has pale blue flowers on monster stalks with tremendous plant growth. EARTH SONG (Evelyn Kegerise '93) is a new child of EDITH WOLFORD with all its good qualities plus excellent growth habits. MAVIS WAVES (Mitch Jameson '94) caused quite a stir with its most indescribable and enslaving blend of colors.

(Thank goodness someone is working with Melba Hamblen's plethora of unusual color patterns.) Mitch's WOOING also made many friends for its dandy pink flowers in perfect border height. Hager's TOTAL RECALL ('92) bloomed all summer—even in 90+ heat. Every flower developed normally, a beautiful blended yellow with excellent form. There was 100% bloom with plenty of increase on each rhizome. Good branching, 7+ buds and no irrigation necessary. O SO PRETTY (Evelyn Kegerise '93) is just that—and more. White flowers, but the falls are bordered in *bright* fuschia to lilac. Great plants too.

A postscript. I am always struck by how few varieties I see out west from distant parts of the country. It is in part, I am sure, explained by the acclimation requirement of iris plants from opposing climates. I have learned that eastern varieties tend to acclimate as slowly for our western friends as many California creations adapt to rugged eastern climates.

Since most commercial iris gardens hug the western borders of our country, perhaps we eastern irisarians are far too hard on the genus iris, demanding instant performance. Perhaps, too, the awards system should seriously be adjusted to account for this botanical factor.

REPORTS ON ITALIAN IRIS SPECIES

Maretta Colasante

Pogon irises are widely dispersed in Italy, and some have dubious taxonomic status.

Iris species with $2n = 40$ chromosomes are found in most parts of the Italian peninsula, and particularly in the central zone. Others with $2n = 24$ are indigenous in northeastern Italy, and have been naturalized in other parts of the country. Only one species with $2n = 16$, *Iris pseudopumila* Tineo, is found in southern Italy.

It is useful to recall that certain pogon irises (Colasante (1986, 1988), Colasante and Ricci (1979) and Colasante and Vosa (1987)) are dubious species for different, and commonly interrelated reasons:

- Distinctive characteristics of some species are difficult to isolate at the first macromorphic observation.
- Probable hybrid origin of some populations and species.
- Introgression (1) in some hybrid populations.
- Faulty or invalid original descriptions.

Pogon irises in general (Genus *Iris*, subgenus *Iris*, section *Iris*, according to Mathew 1981), and the dubious species in particular, have to be identified by macroscopic and microscopic characteristics. The most significant elements for distinguishing the separate species are:

- Time and length of flowering period in the same cultural environment and altitude.
- Deciduous or evergreen leaves.
- Color and morphology of the leaves, especially at the apex.

- Branching of the stems.
- Number and arrangement of the flowers on the stem.
- Size and ratios of the perianth elements.
- Form, number and disposition of spathes and bracts.
- Morphology of pollen.

In the past in Italy the following were included in pogon irises: *Iris chamaeris* Bert. (2); *Iris italica* Parl.; *Iris germanica* L., as well as *Iris pallida* Lam.; *Iris pseudopumila* Tin.; *Iris sicula* Tod.; *Iris albicans* Lange; *Iris florentina* L., etc. Some of these are often considered to be synonyms in several Flora and scientific publications (Ricci 1958, Maugin and Bini Maleci 1973, 1974, 1981, etc.)

In particular, under the name *Iris germanica*, are included all pogon irises with branched stems and purple flowers. It has only been for the past twenty years that there has been clear evidence, mainly based on anthesis (3) and chromosome number, that one species has been differentiated from *Iris germanica* (Ricci and Colasante 1973; Colasante and Ricci 1975). This species is *Iris marsica* Ricci and Colasante.

Since 1973, additional research has been conducted on Italian populations of pogon irises which, similar or not to *I. germanica* L., are often determined to be such in Floras, which is questionable from a systematic point of view. In 1976, *Iris revoluta* Colasante was found in Southern Italy (Porto Cesareo, Scoglio Mojuso).

In 1989, another iris was found in Latium. It looks like *I. germanica* L. but it blooms in February and has a chromosome count of 40: *Iris setina* Colasante.

In the near future we will follow up to study living populations of the Italian pogon irises and certain irises which have been faulty determined in Italy (e.g. *Iris olbiensis* Héron from Monte Gennaro, Monti Lucretili, Latium).

Some of these irises have shown some unusual characteristics and we propose to carry out more detailed taxonomic studies in the near future.

It should be noted, however, that many of these entities sometimes vary from the published descriptions in many details. They are based on nonrepresentative samples, or, on the other hand, are lacking in sufficient detail so that the original descriptions are not always in conformance with the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. These faulty descriptions are copied over and over, even today, in monographs and Floras, which compounds the taxonomic problems we confront.

To dispute the current classification of irises is a complex undertaking and it is difficult to gain acceptance at first. The numerous classifications of the genus are proof of this, as well as our own experience. When Professor Ricci and I published our article "*Iris marsica* species nova" ["A New Species, *Iris marsica*"], there was a general hesitation to recognize the new species because of the macromorphic similarities between *Iris marsica* and *Iris germanica*. It was only after we published another article in 1975, pointing out the differences between the two species that the new species gained full acceptance.

Moreover, up to this time the generally accepted view has been that *Iris germanica* was the progenitor of all branched irises; but it now seems likely, based on the existence of *Iris marsica* and other irises with $2n = 40$ and subsequent studies conducted on their caryology, that *Iris germanica* ($2n = 44$) is probably derivative of the irises with a chromosome count of $2n = 40$.

La Flora italiana by Pignatti (1982), still following the old practice, puts *Iris marsica* under the *Iris germanica* group because *Iris germanica* L. has been known for such a long time. Because of the scientific results we have produced in the laboratory, the relationship between the above mentioned two species must be exactly the opposite (Colasante 1989 a; Colasante, Difford, Vosa 1989, etc. . . .).

In another article we propose to clarify the status of other Italian pogon iris species which are little known and have been of doubtful rank (Colasante 1989 b; Colasante and Altamura L. 1986, etc. . . .). Until then, we offer the following synthetic descriptions of three pogon irises which we have separated during the past twenty years, together with some supplementary notes.

Iris marsica Ricci and Colasante

Perennial. Thick rhizome, knotted and more or less horizontal. Leaves ensiform and falcate, deciduous, up to 50 cm long, 5 cm wide, acute, often mucronate (4) apex, glaucous. Stem subcylindrical, branched with several (3 to 4) nodes, with a spathe on the first, height up to 80 cm, jutting out above the leaves, usually with 3 flowers, rarely 4.

Scented flowers, violet, with perigonial tube twice the length of the ovary; the bracts, acute, herbaceous, often scarious (5) at the apex, slightly swollen; falls (6-8 x 2-4 cm) bearded, velvety, more or less obovate or spatulate, lightly erose at margins, violet sometimes black but always darker than the standards; standards (5.5-9 x 2.3-4.5 cm) elliptical, narrower base (lower third of the standard), often connivent at the apex (6), violet. Stamen with filament more or less the same length as the anther. Pollen pale yellow, monocolpic (7), the grains show the sexine variously arranged in sculptures (baculae, clavae, pile) partially joint at the apex to show short murti.

Stigma with upper lip acutely bifid with toothed margin, the lower lip smooth. Ovary (about 1.5 to 2.3 cm), oblong, somewhat trigonal with three grooves. Capsule oblong-ovoid with six grooves of which three are more apparent (3 + 3).

Seeds bright brown to reddish, without aril.

It is found in central Italy in the Abruzzes National Park. Reported also, but not for certain, in the Marche and Latium, on Monte Ernici, up to an altitude of 1800 m.

Flowering in May-June.

Holotype (RO): Val di Rose, Civitella Alfedena, Abruzzi, Italy, 1973. Described and named by Ricci and Colasante.

Number of chromosomes: $2n = 40$.

Iris revoluta Colasante

Perennial. Thick, knotted, horizontal rhizomes. Stem with several peduncles bearing 2, 3, or 4 flowers; subcylindrical, over-topping the leaves, tall, about 70 cm, not considering the flowers. Leaves (40 x 3 cm) ensiform, falcate, acute, mucronate, lightly glaucous. Scented flowers, dark violet, at first all the inflorescence enclosed in an herbaceous spathe and then every flower in bracts which are a little inflated and somewhat acute, scarious at the apex, with about 2/3 of the lower part green; bearded falls (7.6 x 4.8 cm) more or less velvety, obovate,

often revolute (8); standards (7.8 x 4 cm) elliptical, narrow at the base, often connivent; perianth tube (3.8 cm around) formed like an obtuse triangle, with three lines, violet. Stigma with two lips, the upper lip bifid sometimes with toothed margin, the lower lip with a smooth margin.

Stamens with filaments often shorter than the anther (1.5). Pollen with sub-spherical, monocolpic grain, with a wide colpus, and with sculptures distributed irregularly. Elongated ovary, more or less trigonal. Capsule (8.6 x 3 cm) oblong-ovate, with six grooves only slightly evident. Nearly oval seeds without arils.

Found at Porto Cesareo on the island of Mojuso, Lecce, Pouilles, Italy at sea level. Flowers in March.

Holotype (RO): Scoglio Mojuso (Porto Cesareo), April 9, 1976. Described and named by Colasante.

Number of chromosomes: $n = 20$; $2n = 40$.

Iris setina Colasante

Perennial. Thick and knotted rhizome. Leaves ensiform, acute, straight, and sometimes a little falcate, lightly glaucous (about 40 x 1.8-2 cm). Branched stem with 2-3 branches each of which has a terminal flower protected by violet tinted bracts (about 3.5 x 2-2.4 cm) and with a spathe (about 6.5 x 2.5 cm) inserted on the lower node and enveloping the young inflorescence.

Violet-purple flowers, falls (about 7.6-8.5 x 3.7-4 cm) darker than the standards, bearded; standards (about 7.3-7.5 x 4-4.5 cm), lacking substance, connivent; perianth tube (about 3.5 cm), about twice the length of the ovary.

Stamens: about 3 cm in length with filaments about 1.5 cm.

Whitish pollen, monocolpic, covered by sexine with a partial reticulum and some sculptures.

Ovary nearly trigonal.

Stigma bilopate with the upper lid bifid with toothed margin and the lower lip entire.

Capsule obovate (about 5 x 3 cm).

Rough reddish brown seeds, pyriform, about 0.9 x 0.4 cm.

It is found in Latium, at Sezze, on Monte Trevi and Monte Pilorci, at about 300 to 500 meters above sea level. Flowers in February.

Holotype (RO): near Sezze, Italy.

Described and named by Colasante, M.

Number of chromosomes: $2n = 40$.

The author thanks very much M. Jean Peyrard and Mr. Clarence Mahan for the translation.

[Bibliography as printed].

Editorial notes of M. Maurice Boussard:

(1) Natural hybridization between two or more species that cross successively, and also with one of the ancestors, and cause populations of species and hybrids.

(2) Now designated *I. lutescens* Lam.

(3) The action and period of bloom.

(4) Ending in a sharp point.

(5) Of thin, dry membranous texture.

(6) They come together and touch at the tips a little recurved.

(7) The covering of a membrane, called exine, can make a network that is more or less distinct and can show various sculptures; this can be seen in electronic microscope photomorphs of the pollen grains of such species as *I. pseudopumila*, *I. attica*, *I. lutescens*, *I. biflora* and *I. marsica*. (according to Colasante, et al).

(See drawings below.)

(8) They fold under themselves in such a way that the most external part of the falls is hidden into the part rolled back from the edge.

Reprinted from *Iris et Bulbeuses*. Printed in French and translated to English by Clarence Mahan and Jean Peyrard.

Intectato



E : exina
C : colpo
S : sexina
N : nexina
P : pila
B : bacula
G : gemma
CL : clava

I. pseudopumila

I. attica

Parzialmento semitectato



a) *I. lutescens*

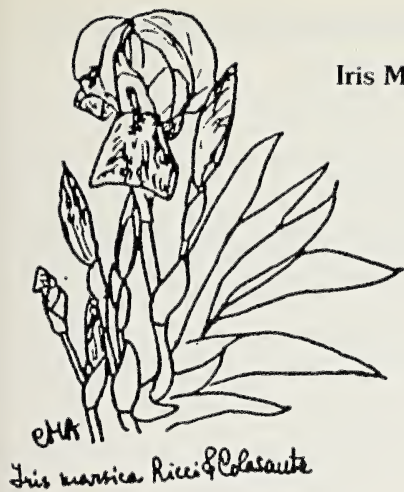


b) *I. biflora*



c) *I. marsica*

Iris Marsica Ricci and Colasante



Iris revoluta Colasante



Iris setino Colasante



How To Register and Introduce an Iris

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises *except* bulbous irises.

REGISTRATION

1. Write to the AIS Registrar Kay Nelson-Keppel, P.O. Box 18145, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. Registration fee is \$7.50 for each iris; for each transfer of a name from one iris to another the fee is \$10.00.
2. Select a name that has not been previously registered, which may be submitted for approval when you write for the registration blank. You will save time for yourself and for the Registrar if you will first look in the AIS Check Lists and the annual reports of the Registrar since 1979 to see if the name you have chosen has been registered previously. Please also suggest an alternate name. The Registrar will hold an approved name for a short time to enable you to complete the blank and send it back to her, but *a name is not registered until the registration blank is filed and approved by the Registrar*. A registration certificate then will be sent to you.
3. Names should follow the rules established by the International Horticultural Code, and the following names shall not be admissible:
 - a. Names of living persons without the written permission of that person.
 - b. Names of persons including forms of address (that is, JANE DOE, not MRS. JANE DOE).
 - c. Names including numerals or symbols.
 - d. Names beginning with the article "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
 - e. Abbreviations unless required by linguistic custom.
 - f. Latin names or Latinized forms. However, the AIS custom of using part of the Latin names of a species, namely the specific epithet, as part of the cultivar name when this seems appropriate (e.g. SUSIMAC, from *I. susiana* X IB-MAC), shall be continued.
 - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
 - h. A slight variation of a previously registered name.
 - i. Names containing more than three words.
 - j. Names that exaggerate or may become inaccurate (e.g. HEAVIEST LACE, TALLEST BLACK).
4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later parentage registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists, and advertisements in the American Iris Society *Bulletin* are acceptable mediums of introduction. It is a requisite for the awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. *An iris is not eligible for these awards until two years after its introduction has been recorded with the Registrar*. Send Ms. Nelson-Keppel a copy of the catalog, list or advertisement and she will acknowledge the fact that the introduction has been recorded. (For irises introduced in the AIS BULLETIN, notify her of the BULLETIN number and page on which the introductory advertisement appears.)

Exhibition Committee Report for 1993

Lillian V. Gristwood

One of these years we are going to have a spectacular year with no frosts, no hail, or floods, etc., so everyone can have a "perfect" show; but we all know this will never happen. Regardless of all the extreme weather conditions this year, we broke ALL records again. There were 206 shows scheduled; and only 9 had to be cancelled. Most cancellations were caused by floods and wet grounds.

Of this total 185 spring shows were held, 2 of which were Seedling Shows and 2 were displays only. Six fall shows were scheduled. Even though I tried to track every show scheduled, sent out postcards reminding them to get their reports in, there were 3 that did not respond. Even if a show is cancelled, I need to know for my report.

Twenty-three Societies included Artistic Divisions, 23 Societies included Youth Divisions (Region 18 having 8), 29 included Education Divisions and 5 included Commercial Divisions. 21 Societies included Youth Design Divisions and 14 Youths earned Best Design Awards. Tall Bearded Irises continue to be the Best Specimen in the most shows, with Standard Dwarf Bearded Irises holding 2nd place and Japanese Irises coming in 3rd.

The Nelson Award (which is given to the iris selected Best Specimen in the most shows this year) will be awarded to JESSE'S SONG. Seven shows gave it this honor. DUSKY CHALLENGER was selected in 5 shows and SILVERADO was chosen in 4 shows.

The AIS provided 125 sets of medals to Affiliates and Regional Shows. This is a bit lower than last year.

American Iris Society Shows—1993

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
REGION 1				
Auburn, ME	Warren & Marie Hazelton	Russ & Joan Moors	Windwalker	Ed & Rita Jakaitis
New Haven, CT	Ken & Agnes Waite	Bob Rousseau	Tennison Ridge	Bob Rousseau
Newton, MA	Jan Sacks/Marty Schafer	Stephen Smith	Hiddenishiki (JI)	Jan Sacks/Marty Schafer
Shelburne Falls, MA	Deborah Wheeler	Ken & Agnes Waite	Trivia (IB)	Deborah Wheeler
South Paris, ME	The Hazeltons	Pauline Grenier	Queen's Pawn (SDB)	Pauline Grenier
Waltham, MA	Jan Sacks/Marty Schafer	Frank Sousa	I. pseudacorus v. Bastardi (Spec)	Jan Sacks/Marty Schafer
REGION 2				
Buffalo, NY	Dr. Edward Valentine	Greg Schifferli	Harvest King	Judith Tucholski
Fayetteville, NY	John & Helen Schueler	Ginny Spina	Warbler (MTB)	John & Helen Schueler
Johnson City, NY	Mary Stiefel	Dorothy Fingerhood	Afternoon Delight	Mary Stiefel
REGION 3				
Christiana, DE	Larry Westfall	Theresa Jewell	Frostbound (JI)	Bud Maltman
Dover, DE	Theresa Jewell	Mary Etta Brightman	Joyce Terry	Theresa Jewell
Exton, PA	Mrs. Grant D. Kegerise	Larry Westfall	Pointe of View	Mrs. Richard P. Kegerise
Mechanicsburg, PA	Mr./Mrs. Sterling Innerst	Larry Westfall	Admetus (JI)	Mr./Mrs. Sterling Innerst
Newark, DE	Ruth White	Elizabeth Unruh	Pointe of View	Elizabeth Unruh
York, PA	Harold L. Giffie	Mr./Sterling Innerst	Spring Splendor	Jason & Pat Leader
Pittsburg, PA	John Baron	George Gerhardt	Silverado	Bettie & Don Nutter
REGION 4				
Beltsville, MD	Clarence Mahan	Dick Sparling	Alizes	Ginny Waddell
Charlotte, NC	Katharine Steele	Randall Bowen	Idol's Dream	Ruth Holbrook
Chesapeake, VA	Bill Smoot	Louise Slavens	Sea Patrol (IB)	Jim & Nelda Pressly
Ellicott City, MD	Mrs. Andrew C. Warner	Clarence Mahan	Caprician Butterfly (JI)	Daniel Schlanger
Fredricksburg, VA	Roger & Sue Glasshoff	Rosalie Loving	Night Owl	Gloria Mills
Hendersonville, NC	Walter Hoover	Cecil Nix, Jr.	Dusky Challenger	Cecil Nix, Jr.

Hendersonville, NC Lightfoot, VA Roanoke, VA Salisbury, MD Towson, MD Virginia Beach, VA	Isabell Nix Anne & Mike Lowe Vic Layman John Vincent Carol Warner Carol Warner	Alfred Nix Joan Caravetta Betty F. Kidd Robert Whiteley J. Owings & Doris Rebert D.J. Kelley	Japanese Pinwheel (Jl) Cup of Cocoa Pirate's Quest Easterlime Circle Five Kyou No Mia (Jl)	Isabell Nix Anne & Mike Lowe Dr. Al Rice Faye Phillips J. Owings & Doris Rebert D.J. Kelly
REGION 5				
Anderson, SC Columbia, SC Decatur, GA Milledgeville, GA Summerville, SC Summerville, SC Spartanburg, SC	Steve Smart Tom C. Burch Coty & Velma Brett T. Mack Godwin Patricia Brooks John Wood Cody & Velma Brett	Patricia Bower Ted M. Lee Beverly Barbor Coty & Velma Brett Maggie Johnson Pat Brooks Steve W. Smart	Going My Way Jesse's Song Strategem Cinnamon Girl Full Tide Kalamazoo (Jl) La Rona (LA)	Sandra Harper Tom C. Burch Harry Turner Coty & Velma Brett Maggie Johnson Pat Brooks Charles D. Weathers
REGION 6				
Akron, OH Akron, OH Cleveland, OH Cornins, MI Flint, MI Fort Wayne, IN Grand Rapids, MI Grand Rapids, MI Indianapolis, IN Lansing, MI Mansfield, OH Marion, IN Munice, IN Portage, MI Portage, MI Royal Oak, MI	Tony & Dorothy Willott Tony & Dorothy Willott Tony & Dorothy Willott Wilbert Emig Mr/Mrs Paul Morgan Roger & Lynda Miller Alice Otter Alice Otter Doris Winton Ruth Esper Carol Ridenour Roger & Lynda Miller Roger & Lynda Miller Carol Kerr Ensata Gardens Ann Cline	Shelley Lynn Shelley Lynn Doug & Joy Fuhrmeyer Nelson Yoder Mr/Mrs Harold L. Stahly Virginia Wesche Don Sorensen Doris De Haan Earl Hall Richard Ferris Joan Sowers Tony & Dorothy Willott Russell & Shirley Bruno Ensata Gardens Anna Mae Miller Keith McNames	Pal Sam (SDB) Master Gardener Master Gardener Sheik (AR) Wild Card Jesse's Song Twink (SDB) Lavender Bounty (Sib) Raspberry Falls Lively Lemon Lime Jade Shooting Sparks (IB) Flair Carolina Gold Electric Glow (Jl) Orange Burst	Mike James Tony & Dorothy Willott Tony & Dorothy Willott Wilbert Emig Keith McNames Betty Wallace Don Sorensen Gene Kozak Doria Winton Grant Helmick Anna M. Saurers Roger & Lynda Miller Marvin Davis Mike & Pam Thomas Ensata Gardens Wally Boguslaw
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY Dresden, TN Jackson, TN Lebanon, TN Lewisburg, TN Lexington, KY Louisville, KY Memphis, TN Murfreesboro, TN Nashville, TN	Irene Hughes Joyce Reynolds David Farrow Betty Wilkins Evan Underwood Elsie Laws Jeanne Erickson Mary Ann Collins Bill Hurt Bill Hurt	Betty Wilkins Robert Hurt Paul & Kathryn Giltner Bess Thompson Hilda Crick Hugh Thurman August Vollmer Marie Atkins Sue & Layton Gossage Regena Crutchfield	Gold Country Bandera Waltz Ron Lullaby of Spring Pearl Chilton Speed Limit Vanity Jesse's Song Jesse's Song Lady Friend	Betty Wilkins Paul & Kathryn Giltner Marilyn Vernon Russell Watson Evan Underwood Annette Milch Riley Barnett Marie Atkins Sue & Layton Gossage Darnell Hester
REGION 8				
Blaine, MN Boerner, WI Fond du Lac, WI Hales Corners, WI Madison, WI Minnetonka, MN St. Paul, MN Winona, MN	Joan Cooper Sandra Lemmer Leslie Koltz Francis C. Rogers Dan Thurman Rita Dove Robert & Signid Dalgaard Betty Lowe	Scott & Cindy Johnson Jerome Bengston Phyllis Semenas Dorothy Vande Ed Kelsey Mildred Odenbrett Walter Doehe Beverly Frank	Best Bet Kiwi Slices (SDB) Everything Plus Joyce Terry Idol's Dream Everything Plus Flea Circus (MDB) Minnesota Glitters	Inge Hempel Sandra Lemmer Phyllis Semenas Francis C. Rogers Ed Kelsey Rae Jean Gee Robert & Signid Dalgaard Marlys Youngck
REGION 9				
Alton, IL Lombard, IL Lombard, IL Rockford, IL Rockford, IL Urbana, IL Glencoe, IL	Sheldon Butt Marge Hagberg Charles J. Simon Francis Brenner Joseph P. Stien Jenny & Melody Wilhoit Elaine Ferris	Lu & Orville Dickhaut Russell Bruno Leslie Smith Joe Stien Shirley M. Stien Gaylord Wirth Alice Simon	Silverado Loudmouth (AB) Breakers Chubby Cheels (SDB) Going My Way Rare Treat I. pseudacorus "variegata"	Nancy D. Pocklington Marge Hagberg Charles J. Simon Francis Brenner Bill Peterson Ann Milla Mike Zubzucki
REGION 10				
Lafayette, LA	Gordon Rabalais	Rusty Osteimer	Koorawatha (LA)	Dormon Haymon
REGION 11				
Missoula, MT	Billie & Bob Grey	Carroll Meyer	Royal Satin	Sharon Richardson
REGION 12				
Logan, UT Salt Lake City, UT Salt Lake City, UT	Jeffrey Walters Brad & Kathie Kasperek Ora Burton	Jared Harris Darlene Pinegar Jeffrey L. Walters	Joyce Terry Sajetta (AB) Midnight Express	Robert Reeder Cathy Hagan Reed DeRay Taylor
REGION 13				
Bellevue, WA Portland, OR Portland, OR	George & Carla Lankow Bill Moritz Mountain View Gardens	Paul Ikeda Mountain View Gardens Chad Harris	Annikins (IB) Twink (SDB) I. pseudacorus (Species)	Florence Weed Bill Moritz Chad Harris

Portland, OR	L.P. Walker	Mountain View Gardens	Adobe Sunset (SPU)	Mountain View Gardens
Richland, WA	Clyde Mead	Lyle E. Fort	Cascadian Skies	Clyde Mead
Tacoma, WA	Marjorie Kilborne	Dr. Alan D. Brooks	Orbiter	Sallie Hebllick
Tukwila, WA	Paul Ikeda	Sharon Gaffney	Afternoon Delight	Sterling Okasa
Walla Walla, WA	Opal Brown	Margaret L. McCrae	Michelle Taylor	Margaret L. McCrae

REGION 14

Capitola, CA	Lois Belardi	Joseph Ghio	Deep Blue Sea (PCN)	Joseph Ghio
Chico, CA	Leo Bamard	Cloudia Owen	Helen Proctor (IB)	Leo Bamard
Clovis, CA	George Sutton	Bill Tyson	Special Feature	Phil Posten
Hanford, CA	Delores Bates	George Sutton	Cabbage Patch Kid	Bill Tyson
Las Vegas, NV	Berkeley Hunt	Evelyn Condo	Navajo Jewel	Berkeley Hunt
Las Vegas, NV	Oscar Schick	Helen Cochran	Fair Dinkum	Lee Wald
Miranda, CA	Betty Thomas	Agnes Tupes	Loop The Loop	Sue Tosten
Oakland, CA	Gigi Hall	Lewis & Adele Lawyer	Mayor (PCN)	Gigi Hall
Palo Alto, CA	Gigi Hall	Edie Guidoux	Roy Davidson (Species Hybd)	Gigi Hall
Redding, CA	Phyllis O'Hanlon	Joyce Brubaker	Eagle's Flight	Phyllis O'Hanlon
Redding, CA	Cloudia Owen	Phyllis O'Hanlon	Pettie Posey	Cloudia Owen
Sacramento, CA	Joe Siebert	Bertha Brownlee	Houndini	Mrs. Betty Schmidt

SEEDLING SHOW CERTIFICATES ONLY GIVEN

Santa Rosa, CA	Lydia-Ann Iris Garden	Betty Ford	Study in Black	Jimmy Lambert (Youth)
Tulare, CA	George Sutton	Edwin S. Matheny III	I. Fulva (Species)	Edwin S. Matheny III
Ukiah, CA	Joanne McGrew	Otha Alexander	Louisiana Lace	Otha Alexander
Walnut Creek, CA	Gigi Hall	Glenn Corlew	Voltago	Virginia Messick

REGION 15

Los Angeles, CA	Duncan Eader	Pete De Santis	Bang	Virginia Adams
Northridge, CA	Judith Mogil	Jean Bossier	Silverado	Betty Squires
Phoenix, AZ	Gary & Janet Meeker	Hal Bradshaw	Bajazzo (LA)	Gary & Janet Meeker
Riverside, CA	Joe Daugherty	Mike Monninger	Turkey White (AB)	Joe Daugherty
San Diego, CA	Bob Brooks	Norm Allin	Raison D'Etre (LA)	Bob Brooks
Tucson, AZ	Sally Cooperman	Jan Bow	Skating Party	Barbara Evans

REGION 16

Burlington, ONT	Jim McMillen	Chuck Chapman	Vanity	Jean Lederer
Norwich, ONT	Chuck Chapman	Donna Poisson	Abridged Version (MTB)	Gloria McMillen
Norwich, ONT	Chuck Chapman	Gloria McMillen	Summer Frost	Jim McMillen

REGION 17

Amarillo, TX	June Neel	Kenneth Muzurek	Dusky Challenger	Don Johnson
Austin, TX	Don & Pat Freeman	Jim Landers	Fine China	Dan & Pat Freeman
Bonham, TX	Oleta Walker	Leon & Edith Wollod	Silverado	Christine Richardson
Dallas, TX	Bonnie Nichols	Pat Norvell	Privileged Character (SDB)	Dorothy Evans
Denison, TX	Judith Earp	J.F. Campbell	Lucky Lemon	Charlie Brown
Fort Stockton, TX	Mary Newton	Janet Newton	Dusky Challenger	Norma Diebitsch
Lubbock, TX	Dana Brown	Ramona Howard	Temple Gold	Woodrow Cagle
Midland, TX	Lonie Mitchell	Joella Olson	Well Endowed	Lonie Mitchell
New Braunfels, TX	Schaefers	Baileys	Shoreline	Schaefers
Odessa, TX	Elmer Williams	Helen Phelps	Egyptian	Elmer Williams
Sherman, TX	Ira & Thelma Inman	Frebert & Pauline Belcher	Titan's Glory	Frebert & Pauline Belcher
Temple, TX	Dana Glaser	Venetia Beckhusen	Tiger Shark	Dana Glaser
Waco, TX	Connie & Roy Rutledge	Lew M. Begley, MD	Tufted Cloud	Connie & Roy Rutledge

REGION 18

Augusta, KS	Dorothy Dixon	Clancy Walz	Queen in Calico	Dorothy Dixon
Cape Girardeau, MO	O.D. Niswonger	Chester Blaylock	Leora Kate	Jeanne Holley
Dodge City, KS	J.C. Sinclair	Alice Sinclair	Lacy Snowflake	Helen Morris
Garden City, KS	Keith Fillmore	Wanda Smith	Michael Paul (SDB)	Wanda Smith
Garden City, KS	Wanda Smith	Robert Jeffries	Song of Norway	Duane Hays
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Betty Hill	Dream Lover	Mabel Grusing
Jefferson City, MO	Dan & Audrey Judy	Erick Tankesley-Clarke	Broken Halo (SDB)	Dan & Audrey Judy
Joplin, MO	Mrs. Helen Sheppard	Mrs. Jackie Broadwater	Jesse's Song	Bill Chapman
Kansas City, MO	Donna Aldridge	Perry-Bates	Rare Edition (IB)	Delores T. Denny
Kansas City, MO	Kevin Morley	Perry-Bates	Dancing Nanou (Sib)	Donna Aldridge
Kimmswick, MO	Robert Pries	Mr. & Mrs. J. Morris	Aqua Star SDB)	La Verne White
Kimmswick, MO	Sheldon Butt	Carla Steinkoetter	Brook Flower	Carla Steinkoetter
Parsons, KS	Mary C. Babcock	Lee Robbins	Closed Circuit	Betty L. Hare
Springfield, MO	Calvin Helsley	Karen Day	Eagle's Flight	Bev De Witt
St. Joseph, MO	Jim Hedgecock	Donna Aldridge	Shoutin Blue	Jim Hedgecock
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	James W. Morris	Smart (SDB)	Sheldon Butt
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	Roy Bohrer	Dazzling Gold	Kevin Gommley
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	Riley Probst	Catalyst	Riley Probst
St. Louis, MO	Sheldon Butt	Don Delmez	Butterflies in Flight (J)	Don Delmez
Washington, MO	Barbara Fouts	Carol Kuhlmann	Elvis Presley	Edna Dutton
Wichita, KS	Dorothy Dickson	Floyd Dyer	Hi Sailor (SDB)	Helen Reynolds
Wichita, KS	John & Ginny Tripp	Jayneen Westervelt	Stop the Music	John & Ginny Tripp

SEEDLING SHOW CERTIFICATES ONLY GIVEN

REGION 19

Deptford, NJ
Princeton, NJ

George Sprowl
William & Martha Griner

Mr Mrs Joseph Griner
Chun Fan

Lullaby of Spring
I. versicolor (Species)

Joseph & Margo Griner
Joseph & Margo Griner

REGION 20

Colorado Springs, CO
Denver, CO
Rocky Ford, CO

John & Jeri Knudtson
Lowell Baumunk & Barb Lewis
Karen Tomky

Glenna Chapman
Harry Kuesel
Paula Bennedsen

Hot Line
Dusky Challenger
Edith Wolford

Lowell Baumunk
Duane & Kayellen Daily
Karen Tomky

REGION 21

Columbus, NE
Gering, NE
Lincoln, NE
Lincoln, NE
Norfolk, NE
Norfolk, NE
Omaha, NE
Omaha, NE

Don Peterson
Viola Schreiner
Eugene Kalkwarf
Gayle Jensen
Don Peterson
Don Peterson
Don Peterson
James L. Ennenga

Ron Uhlman
Julie Feil
Allan Ensminger
Eugene Kalkwarf
Larry Harder
Marjorie Jansen
Jim Ennenga
Doris Jensen

Lacy Snowflake
Superstition
Hers (IB)
Emerald Skies
Pure Allure (SDB)
Peach Petals (BB)
Violet Lulu (SDB)
Best Bet

Ron Uhlman
Daurene Baker
Allan Ensminger
Eugene Kalkwarf
Larry Harder
Marjorie Jansen
Tim Stanek
Vic Sellers

REGION 22

Edmond, OK
Enid, OK
Hobart, OK
Hot Springs, AR
Lawton, OK
Lawton, OK
Little Rock, AR
Norman, OK
Oklahoma City, OK
Oklahoma City, OK
Oklahoma City, OK
Oklahoma City, OK
Tulsa, OK

Leigh Ellis
Bea Williams
Carmie Allen
Susie Smith
Lacy & Donna Hagood
Lacy & Donna Hagood
Mr/Mrs Henry C. Rowland
Perry L. Parrish
Paul Black
Louise Carson
Paul Black
Perry L. Parrish
Rilla Hickerson

Sharon Eisele
Dana Wade
Randy Raley
Richard S. Morgan
Shirley Hollowell
Joe & Maude Norton
Mr/Mrs Richard C. Butler
Genevieve Followwill
Nancy Fernandes
Leigh Ellis
Louise Carson
Paul Black
Dale Satterwhite

Bethlehem Star (AR)
Jesse's Song
Jesse's Song
Welch's Reward (MTB)
Flower Show
Bubble Up
Fiesta Time
Windsong West
Rare Edition (IB)
All That Glitters (AB)
Mary Frances
Formosa Spring
Rhonda Fleming

Maxine Hawley
Bea Williams
Randy Raley
Richard & Sarah Morgan
Lacy & Donna Hagood
Lacy & Donna Hagood
Doris Boyles
Perry L. Parrish
Paul Black
Louise Carson
Paul Black
Perry L. Parrish
Alex & Suzanne Darrow

REGION 23

Albuquerque, NM
Albuquerque, NM
Albuquerque, NM
Las Cruces, NM
Roswell, NM
Santa Fe, NM

Valerie White
Glen Neumeyer
Irene Shockey
Rosemary Anderson
Leslie Jobe
Barbara Mann

Howard Shockey
Scott & Reita Jordan
Pete McGrath
Paulene Black
Katherine McDaniel
Pat Soland

Purple Sequin (AR)
Dusky Challenger
Nordic Ice
Bogata
Funfest
Dream Lover

Howard Shockey
Glen Neumeyer
Howard Shockey
Jeff Anderson
Leslie Jobe
Pat Soland

REGION 24

Birmingham, AL
Charleston, MS
Cullman, AL
Huntsville, AL

Nan Elizabeth Miles
Walter Moores
Evelyn Powe
Margaret S. Connally

Mr/Mrs Joe M. Langdon
Truman Scarborough
Iva Mae Reid
Jimmy Burch

Tennessee Woman
Desiderata
Titan's Glory
Miss Nellie (BB)

Nan Elizabeth Miles
Walter Moores
Evelyn Powe
Jimmy Burch

FALL SHOWS**REGION 4**

Williamsburg, VA

Joan Roberts

Nelda Pressly

Lady Emma

Joan Roberts

REGION 14

Chico, CA
Tulare, CA

Rex Clark
George Sutton

Bob Annand
Dr. John Weiler

His Royal Highness
Amanda Erin

Carolyn Melf
George Sutton

FALL SHOWS—1992**REGION 14**

Walnut Creek, CA

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Darling (SDB)

George Young

ARTISTIC DIVISION**Place of Show****Best Design****Artistic Sweepstakes****Best Design Youth****Artistic Sweetstakes Youth****REGION 1**

Auburn, ME
New Haven, CT
Newton, MA
Shelburne Falls, MA
South Paris, ME
Waltham, MA

Cynthia Hosmer
Gwen Wexler
Kathy Marble
Sally Davis
Pauline Grenier
Diane Butler

Pauline Grenier
Ruthy Bennett
Kathy Marble
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Pauline Grenier
Diane Butler

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REGION 2

Buffalo, NY
Fayetteville, NY
Johnson City, NY

Donna Lowry
Dolores Capella
Ella Reherek

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—
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REGION 3

Newark, DE
Pittsburg, PA

Freda Martin
Lenna Easter

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REGION 4					
Beltsville, MD	Mrs. Clara Herbert	Joy Peters	—	—	—
Charlotte, NC	Dr. John Dunn	—	—	—	—
Fredericksburg, VA	Gloria Mills	Gloria Mills	—	—	—
REGION 5					
Anderson, SC	Mrs. Frances Hart	Mrs. Frances Hart	—	—	—
Columbia, SC	Elizabeth B. Smith	—	—	—	—
Decatur, GA	Hallie Brown	Hallie Brown	—	—	—
Milledgeville, GA	C. Earnest Yearwood	C. Earnest Yearwood	—	—	—
Summerville, SC	Kathy Woosley	Kathy Woosley	—	—	—
Spartanburg, SC	Nell Kirby	Freddie Wilson	—	—	—
REGION 6					
Akron, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott	—	—	—
Akron, OH	Marti Parker	Marti Parker	—	—	—
Cleveland, OH	Toni Repp	Toni Repp	—	—	—
Comins, MI	Kim Kocher	Gaynell Herrington	—	—	—
Fort Wayne, IN	Betty Wallace	Betty Wallace	—	—	—
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski	—	—	—
Grand Rapids, MI	Gene kozak	Leta Kwiafkowski	—	—	—
Indianapolis, IN	Rosalie Stam	Rosalie Stam	—	—	—
Lansing, MI	Peggy Bee	—	—	—	—
Mansfield, OH	Kay Hostetler	Kay Hostetler	—	—	—
Muncie, IN	Betty Thomas	Betty Thomas	—	—	—
Royal Oak, Mi	Alan Reid	Alan Reid	—	—	—
REGION 7					
Bowling Green, KY	Irene Hughes	Irene Hughes	—	—	—
Lebanon, TN	Margaret Joines	Margaret Joines	—	—	—
Louisville, KY	Paul Owen	Helen Harrigan	—	—	—
Memphis, TN	Mary Wolfe	—	—	—	—
Murfreesboro, TN	Nila Gail Hunton	—	—	—	—
Nashville, TN	Cynda Ferguson	—	—	—	—
REGION 8					
Blaine, MN	Joan Cooper	Joan Cooper	—	—	—
Fond du Lac, WI	Delores Krueger	Delores Krueger	—	—	—
Madison, WI	Keith Einich	Keith Einich	—	—	—
Minneota, MN	Rae Jean Gee	—	—	—	—
St. Paul, MN	Charlotte Sindi	Charlotte Sindi	—	—	—
Winona, MN	Margaret Wera	Bea Florin	—	—	—
REGION 9					
Alton, IL	Mary Schmidt	Rosemary Newman	—	—	—
Lombard, IL	Frances O'Brien	Frances O'Brien	—	—	—
Lombard, IL	Pat Hessel	—	—	—	—
Rockford, IL	Nancy Pilpuf	—	—	—	—
Glencoe, IL	Carol Bean	—	—	—	—
REGION 11					
Missoula, MT	Kenneth Baier	Kenneth Baier	—	—	—
REGION 12					
Logan, UT	Candy Thomas	Candy Thomas	—	—	—
Salt Lake City, UT	Candy Thomas	Kathie Kasperek	—	—	—
Salt Lake City, UT	Kathie Kasperek	Kathie Kasperek	—	—	—
REGION 13					
Portland, OR	Kay Ludi	Laurie Ystad	—	—	—
Portland, OR	Laurie Ystad	—	—	—	—
Richtland, WA	Sheryl Ellingsworth	Joan Frazer	—	—	—
Tacoma, WA	Ruby Glasser	Ruby Glasser	—	—	—
Walla Walla, WA	Louis O'Con	Mary Jane Millard	—	—	—
REGION 14					
Chico, CA	Erna Garton	Erna Garton	—	—	—
Clovis, CA	Pat Patten	Laverne Cottet	—	—	—
Hanford, CA	June Pope	—	—	—	—
Las Vegas, NV	Evelyn Condo	Evelyn Condo	—	—	—
Miranda, CA	Sue Tosten	—	—	—	—
Redding, CA	Jessie Roberson	Jessie Roberson	—	—	—
Tulare, CA	Dorothy Dominici	Dorothy Dominici	—	—	—
Ukiah, CA	Gretchen Logan	Terrie Hudson	—	—	—
REGION 15					
Los Angeles, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara	—	—	—
North Ridge, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Helen Zeldin	—	—	—
Phoenix, AZ	Clemence Newcomb	Clemence Newcomb	—	—	—
Riverside, CA	Gail Edwards	Gail Edwards	—	—	—

San Diego, CA	Dorothy Driscoll	—	—	—
Tucson, AZ	Charlotte Clark	—	—	—
REGION 17				
Amarillo, TX	Kathy Palmer	Lew Bathwell	—	—
Austin, TX	Pat Freeman	—	—	—
Bonham, TX	Harold Walker	—	—	—
Denison, TX	Martha McDowell	—	—	—
Fort Stockton, TX	Mary Newton	Mary Newton	—	—
Lubbock, TX	Bill Skillman	Virginia Hodges	—	—
Midland, TX	Jim Galyean	Lonie Mitchell	—	—
Sherman, TX	Carol Cillum	Wynnona Green	—	—
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik	—	—
REGION 18				
Augusta, KS	Helen Reynolds	Helen Reynolds	David Manahan	David Manahan
Dodge City, KS	Alice Sinclair	Alice Sinclair	—	—
Garden City, KS	Mary Lou Hays	Betty Langston	Shilo Gillam	—
Garden City, KS	Mary Lou Hays	Mary Lou Hays	Kenny Smith	—
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Saundra Grimm	—	—
Jefferson City, MO	Barbara Schuette	Barbara Schuette	—	—
Joplin, MO	Laura Dolan Teverow	Laura Dolan Teverow	—	—
Kansas City, MO	Donna Aldridge	Donna Aldridge	—	—
Kansas City, MO	James Waddick	—	—	—
Kimmswick, MO	Dorothy Jackson	Dorothy Jackson	—	—
Kimmswick, MO	Priscilla Pooker	Priscilla Pooker	—	—
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce	Kiev Spare	—
Springfield, MO	Gladys Jones	Gladys Jones	—	—
St. Joseph, MO	Lamoyne Hedgecock	Lamoyne Hedgecock	—	—
St. Louis, MO	Sue Delmez	Roy Bohrer	Erica Schanger	—
St. Louis, MO	Rita Kinsella	Rita Kinsella	—	—
St. Louis, MO	Nadine Wallenstein	Nadine Wallenstein	Courtney Pritchett	—
St. Louis, MO	Nadine Wallenstein	Betty Bohrer	Calista Ferguson-Grinstead	—
Washington, MO	Rosa Kampschroeder	Rosa Kampschroeder	Nicole Trentmann	Stephanie Rust
Wichita, KS	Lowell Markley	Kathryn McCune	—	—
Wichita, KS	Jayneen Westervelt	Kathryn McCune	—	—
REGION 20				
Colorado Springs, CO	Betty Fallon	Betty Fallon	—	—
Denver, CO	Clara Perrin	Ila Sheahan	—	—
Rocky Ford, CO	Emery Swartzendruber	Rose McClain	—	—
REGION 21				
Columbus, NE	Don Peterson	Don Peterson	—	—
Gering, NE	Viola Schreiner	Viola Schreiner	Stacy Smith	—
Lincoln, NE	—	Gladys Ensminger	—	—
Lincoln, NE	—	Opal Wulf	—	—
Norfolk, NE	Marian Burleigh	Marian Burleigh	—	—
Norfolk, NE	Don Peterson	Don Peterson	—	—
Omaha, NE	Don Peterson	Don Peterson	—	—
Omaha, NE	Roger P. Mazur	Roger P. Mazur	—	—
REGION 22				
Edmond, OK	Karen Hirsch	Karen Hirsch	—	—
Enid, OK	Veda Moore	Dorothea Klingman	—	—
Hobart, OK	Ruby Parr	Ruby Parr	—	—
Hot Springs, AR	Tim Hassell	Tim Hassell	—	—
Lawton, OK	Velma Bluford	Velma Bluford	—	—
Lawton, OK	Mary Ann Holman	Mary Ann Holman	Carrie Simmons	Carrie Simmons
Little Rock, AR	Stephen Russell	Stephen Russell	—	—
Norman, OK	Lillian Shelton	Laverne Sullivan	—	—
Oklahoma City, OK	Sharon Lancaster	—	—	—
Oklahoma City, OK	Peggy Estes	Virginia Gregory	—	—
Oklahoma City, OK	Dottie Weisenberger	Dottie Weisenberger	—	—
Tulsa, OK	Melinda Robbins	Pat Aytes	—	—
REGION 23				
Albuquerque, NM	Mrs. Betty Roberts	Mrs. Betty Roberts	—	—
Las Cruces, NM	Donna Holland	Donna Holland	—	—
Roswell, NM	Leslie Jobe	Leslie Jobe	—	—
Santa Fe, NM	Maggie Rubino	Diane Capshaw	—	—

FALL SHOWS

REGION 14				
Chico, CA	Barbara Collado	Barbara Collado	—	—
Tulare, CA	George Sutton	—	—	—

FALL SHOWS—YOUTH SECTION

Place of Show	Silver Medal Youth	Bronze Medal Youth	Best Specimen	Exhibitor Youth
REGION 5 Decatur, GA	—	—	Loudon Lassie	Adam Gegan
REGION 6 Mansfield, OH	—	—	Outreach	Julie Weaver
REGION 7 Memphis, TN	—	—	Batik (BB)	Sharon Gaia
REGION 9 Urbana, IL	Kris Kirkwood	Ann Millar	Rare Treat	Ann Millar
REGION 14 Chico, CA Palo Alto, CA Redding, CA	Kristofer Kooi Alissa Loberg Stephanie Brower	Anna Kooi Dickenson Brothers —	Cabbage Patch Kid Oh Babe —	Kristofer Kooi Alissa Loberg —
REGION 15 Phoenix, AZ	—	—	Speculator	Ben Bernhagen
REGION 17 Midland, TX	Scott Strauss	—	Can Can Red	Scott Strauss
REGION 18 Augusta, KS Garden City, KS Garden City, KS Joplin, MO Parsons, KS St. Louis, MO St. Louis, MO Washington, MO	Mike Walz Waylon Gillam Shilo Gillam — Tyler Chapman — — Stephanie Rust	David Manahan Shilo Gillam Kenny Smith — — — Danika King	Little Paul (MTB) Laced Lemonade (SDB) Wind Surfer Jesse's Song Blue Luster Nylon Loveliness (SDB) Little Mary Sunshine (BB) Study in Black	Mike Walz Shilo Gillam Waylon Gillam Tyler Chapman Kiev Spare Ryan Koch Daniel Mundy Danika King
REGION 21 Columbus, NE Cering, NE Norfolk, NE	Harrington Boys Melody Schreiner Lacey Bronzynski	Angie Wernhoff — —	Wabash — Hellcat (IB)	Angie Wernhoff — Lacy Bronzynski
REGION 22 Lawton, OK Tulsa, OK	Joshua Stipkovich Catherine Davis	— Tommy Walsh	Pink Angel Proud Tradition	Carrie Simmons Catherine Davis
REGION 23 Albuquerque, NM Albuquerque, NM	Catherine Pagano Kelsey Mc Grath	Isaiah Price Isaiah Price	Snowbrook Titan's Glory	Catherine Pagano Whitney Mc Grath

EDUCATION AND COMMERCIAL

REGION 3

Place of Show	Educational	Commercial
Dover, DE	Dr. Arthur O. Tucker	—

REGION 4

Beltsville, MD	Brian Lazarus	—
Hendersonville, NC	Carolina Mountains Iris Society	—

REGION 5

Decatur, GA	Carolyn Hawkins	—
Summerville, SC	Peggy Beason	—

REGION 6

Lansing, MI	Joan McComb	—
Portage, MI	Anna Mae Miller	—

REGION 7

Bowling Green, KY	Lou A. Ehrcke	—
Lebanon, TN	Lou A. Ehrcke	—
Louisville, KY	Diana Brumitt	—
Nashville, TN	Cynda Ferguson	—

REGION 13

Portland, OR

—

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
 Cooley's Garden
 Laurie's Garden
 Schreiner's Iris Gardens
 Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
 Laurie's Garden

Portland, OR

Tukwila, WA

George & Carla Lankow

—

REGION 14

Ukiah, CA

Lolita Falconer

—

REGION 15

Los Angeles, CA

Pete De Santis

—

Northridge, CA

Pete De Santis

—

Phoenix, AZ

—

Kary Iris Gardens
 Shepard Iris Garden

Riverside, CA

Grace Martin

—

San Diego, CA

Thelma Carrington

—

REGION 17

Amarillo, TX

Sue Bell

—

REGION 18

Augusta, KS

Mary Eckley

—

Cape Girardeau, MO

Mary E. Blackiston

—

REGION 20

Denver, CO

Mike McCarthy

Orvid & Lois Olson

REGION 21

Gering, NE

June Hara

—

Julie Feil

—

REGION 22

Edmond, OK

Lavinia Barrentine

—

Bonnie Hadaway

Hot Springs, AR

Lyle & Louise Trimble

Gail's Flowers & Gifts

Lawton, AR

Marjorie Puckett, Velma Bluford,
 Paula Philips, Howard & Maria Edwards

—

Norman, OK

Genevieve E. Followwill

—

Oklahoma City, OK

Genevieve E. Followwill

—

Oklahoma City, OK

Bonnie Hadaway

—

REGION 24

Cullman, AL

Evelyn Davenport

—

FALL SHOWS**REGION 14**

Chico, CA

Jay E. Partridge School

—

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY EXHIBITION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE 1993 SEASON

TALL BEARDED

Allen, Jim	W3B	Kolitz, Leslie	A200
Bellagamba, Louise	TB1-93UP	Lazarus, Bryan	BRNTOR
Bench, Janet	89-V04	Leavitt, Mel	H-2
	89-P-03	Liggett, P. Dale	89-8B
	90-T-02	Magee, Tom	8823
	90-AA-07		84-45
Black, Paul	A-68A		8815E
	A-79C	Marsh, Connell	85-26-6-C
Boyd, Harry	84-15-9	McMillen, Jim	88-J,8805
	84-3-9		JBSH-3
	87-102	McGrath, Pete	Mc-TB-91-2
Bradshaw, Hall	91-2	Messick, Virginia	M88-99
Brown, Opal	80-7-B8	Miller, David	86-2A
Burch, Jimmy	50-22		88-8B
Burke, Mr/Mrs James	BU-291		85-9B
Byers, Monty	D45-102	Montgomery, Don	89B1
Chapman, Chuck	90-190-1	Moore, Walter	88-17
Cross, Libby	CP88-B2	Morrison, Don	9862-1
Davis, Marvin	87-096-3	Mueller, Adam	86-15
Doonan, Sara	86-35-5	Nebeker, Don	1000-5
Ehrche, Lou	LA89/10A	Niswonger, O. David	4-86
	LA8960		45-92
Enslinger, Allen	87-40		47-92
Emst, Richard	JF169-25-2	Olsen, Mercedes	91-1A-0
Fan, Chun	F-119-B-86	Osborne, Manley	891
Ferguson, Arnold	90-LCXC-B1	Palmer, Cleo	8711-A
Ferguson, Mary	90-11-2	Pinegar, Darlene	VF-1-2-2B
Fitzgerald, Jack	Jack's Gift (JF-90)	Richardson, Gerry L.	89-97-1
Fort, Lyle E.	90-520-D	Roberts, Ed	#50
Freund, Richard	F92CRT-001		#927
Ghio, Joe	88-79C	Roberts, Joan	460-9
	88-53L3		460-1
Glasshoff, Roger	T54		497RE
Griner, Martha	#91-22	Rogers, Francis C.	T-941-E
James, Mike	88-3	Rowlan, Henry C.	90-TB-9
Jeffries, Robert	86-1-A	Schick, Oscar	90-04C21
Johnson, Roy & Bev	93-4	Shockey, Howard	89-218-A
	91-8	Skillman, Bill	92-2
	91-2	Spoon, Dr. Don	CD
Kasperek, Brad	89-45D	Sutton, George	T6-EE-RE
Kelsey, Ed	GEF		A24-C
Kerr, Fred	88-17-5B		EG-2
	88-17-1		PE1
	87B-58-1	Thayer, Loyd	89-104
Knaus, John	589	Turner, Harry	94-88

Tyson, Bill	85-2-1	8956
Van Horn, Maynard	90-3	D88-24
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-221	87-140-8
	92-223	D94-92-D
	88-3	8S01-1
	92-217	88SDB2
	93-85	VR20-1
Wolford, Harry E.	C24R5	A214
Wood, Vernon	90-72C	93-2
		MV1424
		8956

BORDER BEARDED

Aitken, Terry	88M7A	8837
Hickerson, Rilla	89-14-4	8952
Jamison, Mitch	6-87	9219
Johnson, Roy & Bev	89-34	9313
	96-16	9303
Lankow, Carole	7H11B	89-18-6
Magee, Tom	LEMON UP	89-59-2
Miller, David	86-8A	883
	85-13A	931
Niswonger, O. David	BB32-92	933
Pinegar, Darlene	V-1-1	934
Shockey, Howard	87-221-A	935
Walz, Clancy	CA77-1B	936

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

Budinger, Paula	87-8B	91-7
Ensminger, Allan	288-8	89-10
Meyer, Carryl	91-02	ERD-SDB
Nichols, Hooker	88-12-F	GRANDMA'S BONNET
Niswonger, O. David	IB-15-92	T85-1
Sutton, George	B-HOM-RE-IB	92-124
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-190	92-190
	RADIANT BURST	89-26
	92-223	88-76
	90-77	84-102
	90-124	93-5
	91-300	

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

Mahan, Clarence	REMINISCENCE
Miller, Lynda	3791
Norrick, Jack & Glenda	90-1
Wyss, Betty	89Z-3

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

Bellagamba, Louise	D-1-93LG
Black, Paul	MIDNIGHT MIST
	B324A
	9303
	91289B
	A109A
	B290E

Blodgett, Arthur	8956
Chapman, Chuck	D88-24
Dyer, Floyd	87-140-8
Fillmore, Keith	D94-92-D
Harris, Chad	8S01-1
Jensen, Carol	88SDB2
Johnson, David	VR20-1
Kremer, Ken & Sue	A214
Mt. View Gardens	93-2
Palmer, Cleo	MV1424

Ritchie, Jane	89-18-6
Shoop, George	89-59-2
Shoup, Marvin	883
	931
	933
	934
	935
	936

Sparling, Richard	91-7
	89-10

Stanek, Tom	ERD-SDB
Tankesley-Clarke, Eric & Bob	

Torkelson, C.O.	T85-1
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-124
	92-190
	89-26
	88-76
	84-102
	93-5

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

Briscoe, Harley	84-11A
Johnson, Dave	SXA2A

ARIL/ARILBRED

Bitzer, Pat	(AB)LF87062
Bruno, Russell	AR(Med)89-32
Danielson, Luella	(AR)89-90
	(AR)093-1
	(AR)LD-8R
	(AR)555-1-6
McGrath, Pete	(OGB)MCW-1-B
Moffatt, John	(AB) GENTLE POET
Shockey, Howard	AR(OH)90-1-BD
	AR(OGB)90-119-B

	AR(OG)90-4-35	S86-20-1
	(OGG)87-132-A	S86-14-1
Vossen, Carole	(AB)9-1.1(OGB(½))	S90-58-2
	(AR)162.5(½)	
Walz, Clancy	(AB)CA6002-1AB	

JAPANESE

Ackerman, William L.	A4-4-69
Aitken, Terry	87J28B
	87J28C
	89J5
	90-J-11
Bauer/Coble	J86MM-11
	J88H-3
	J89T-2
	J90H-1
Harris, Chad	89JA18
	89A21
Hirao, Dr. S.	SH-11
Innerst, Mr/Mrs Sterling	2812-1
Matheny, Ed III	J:00-02-93
Reid, Lorena	87J19-5

SIBERIAN

Brenner, Francis	F5-6-7
Briscoe, Harley	86-1A
Hamblin, Dale	9206
Helsley, Calvin	89-5
	92-1
Hollingworth, Dr. Robert	5G3A2
	85P1B6
Kotytk, Walter	W89-3K
Reid, Lorena	8S72-2G
	8S88
	8S88-6B10
Sacks/Schafer	S88-6-1

CALIFORNICAE

Cole, Debby	PCN Sparrow/Cole A1
Belardi, Lois	PCN 093-1
Eader, Duncan	PCN C86-S-36
Gasser, Judith	PCN 92-1
Ghio, Joseph	PCN PF123C
Hill, Elyse	PCN 2-17
Smart, Steve W.	PCN PGG-111
Wood, Vernon	CAL PCN 92-15
	CAL PCN 93-14
	PCN 93-80

LOUISIANA

Faggard, Albert	FBT-31-91
Haymon, Dormon	20-91-7
	64-85-1
Kirk, DR	SH-21
O'Connor, Patrick	FR-1
Strawn, Dr. Kirk	SH26
Triesch, Ken	LD-6-90
Wolford, Leon	R93-CG-1

SPURIA

Jenkins, Charles	AY71A
	C17-7S

SPECIES

Copeland, Jill	PXE-1
Niswonger, O. David	(Cal-Sib) CS2-93
	CS3-93
	CS1-93
Woolsey, Kathy	VA KRW-93-01

HIGH COMMENDATION 1993

VOTES

TALL BEARDED

BLACK, P.

5 A68A

GHIO, J.

5 90-65K3

HUMMEL, J.

5 86-312C

INNERST, S.

5 3428-5

JONES, B.

10 88-12-1

KEPPEL, K.

17 MIND READER

19 SPIRIT WORLD

MAGEE, T.

5 8445

McWHIRTER, J.

5 J89-125

SCHREINERS

5 AA2012-A

5 AA414-B

5 DD833

BORDER BEARDED

HUMMEL, J.

5 86-333B

MARKHAM, L.

5 SECRET WEAPON

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

WILLOTT, A. & D.

11 CAMEO CUTIE

7 92-141

5 92-45

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

BURTON, L.

5 L88-M1-1

GADDIE, G.

5 18-14

5 SQUARE DANCE FESTIVAL

WILLOTT, A. & D.

11 91-351

11 RADIANT BURST

6 90-77

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

DUNDERMAN, M. L.

5 EE28

MAHAN, C.

5 REMINISCENCE

MILLER, L.

5 3791

WILLOTT, A. & D.

8 90-131

7 90-121

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

JOHNSON, D.

7 DJ410

SMITH, M.

11 GEMSTAR

8 FIRESTORM

STEVENS, S.

5 88-1-5

WILLOTT, A. & D.

9 89-26

7 84-102

5 88-115

LOUISIANA

MERTZWEILLER, J.

7 T85-41A

SIBERIAN

BAUER/COBLE

6 S85-HREB

6 LEE'S BLUE

HOLLINGWORTH, R.

5 85U2B18

SCHAFER/SACKS

11 S86-8-2

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Trade Winds Central Inn
Tulsa, Oklahoma

November 5-7, 1993

President Claire Barr called to order the regular fall meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society at 8:05 p.m., November 5, 1993. Present at the various sessions were President Barr; Immediate Past President K. Waite; 1st Vice President Niswonger; 2nd Vice President Mahan, Secretary J. Stayer; Treasurer Corlew; Editor Mullin; Recording Secretary J. Plank; Publication Sales Director C. J. Lack; Directors Crick, Gristwood, Harder, Stahly, Waters, Wilhoit and Witt; RVP Board Representative Gossett (22); Directors-elect Aitken and McWhirter; Photo Coordinator L. Stayer; Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen Brookins and Jean Morris; RVPs Schmieder (1), Honkanen (5), D. Willott (6), King (7), Meyer (11), Green (17), Probst (18), Moller (20), Mazur (21), and Gilliam (24); Assistant RVP Bergamo (23); Section Representatives James Morris (MIS) and Wilder (SIS); and guests A. Waite (1), A. Willott (6), Reynolds and Gifford (7); R. Plank (15), Cliburn, Dyer, Harkins, Hickerson, Holman, Howard, K. Lack, McMartin, Shoemaker, Simmons, A. Smith, J. Smith, M. Smith, F. Smith, Tomlinson, Tanton, and Williams (22); and Figge (23).

Barr welcomed everyone. She reminded Board members and visitors that everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in discussion, but that only Board members may vote. Introductions followed around the Board table and through the audience.

Plank reported corrections to the minutes of the spring Board meeting in Fort Worth. The names of Jean Doucette, Roger Mazur and Riley Probst should be added to the list of those attending sessions of the meeting. Jean Doucette, not Barbara Schmieder, answered Mahan's question during the April 21 morning session about the existence of plans for the distribution of excess contributions to the Wister Medal Fund. Doucette's response was that she knew of no plan. Schmieder, not present at the morning session, attended the afternoon session and presented her report in which the Mahan question was answered. Schmieder's answer, inadvertently omitted in the minutes, was that contributions received in excess of the amount needed will be used to strike additional medals to hold in reserve. The minutes printed in *Bulletin* #290 were approved as corrected.

Secretary Stayer announced that as no additional nominations for director had been received, candidates Aitken, Gristwood, McWhirter and Plank were duly elected and qualified as AIS Directors, with terms expiring in 1996.

Barr welcomed the new directors and the new RVP representative, Paul Gossett, and expressed thanks to outgoing Directors Everette Lineberger and Bennett Jones for their work and to outgoing RVP Board Representative Gilliam for his year as a Board member. She pointed out that though Jeane Stayer is no longer a director, she continues as a voting Board member through her elected position as Secretary.

Barr reported the recent death of Leon Wolford, past-president of the AIS. Wolford attended the 1993 spring meeting and banquet in Fort Worth.

Barr reported on two interim Board actions: 1) approval of the appointment of Michael Moller as Slides Committee chairman to replace Howard Shockey, whose resignation becomes effective January 1, 1994. Barr expressed thanks to Shockey for his work and welcomed Moller to the position; 2) approval of a change in the supplier for exhibition medals from Business Builders Company to Midwest Trophy because of price. The Executive Committee took three interim actions: 1) set the price at \$10 for the newly printed 1949 *Check List* and 1959 *Check List*; 2) approved the purchase of a laser printer for the Membership Secretary; and 3) approved the order for the Past RVP pins.

Receipt of a partial quantity of the Past RVP pins is expected during this meeting. Barr stated that provision has been made to have pins available for past RVPs who might like to buy one, and she suggested that the Board set a price for the purchase of these pins. Plank moved, Gossett seconded, that pins may be purchased for \$25 by anyone wanting to buy a pin for a living past RVP. Motion carried.

President Barr reported that permission was granted to the new editor of the New Zealand Iris Society Bulletin to reprint an article from the AIS *Bulletin* with acknowledgement. Nancy Harkins, winner of the Wister Medal Design contest, asked for permission to send to her clients the article which appears in the October 1993, AIS *Bulletin* about her winning this contest and about her work. Niswonger moved, McWhirter seconded, that Nancy Harkins be given permission to use the material requested. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded, that the Board reaffirm the policy to allow any iris organization requesting permission to reprint any article published in the AIS *Bulletin*, with proper acknowledgement. Motion carried.

Stahly moved, Stayer seconded, that the AIS Board make a policy allowing any author of an article or any person featured in an article in the AIS publications to make reproductions of that article for their own personal use. Motion carried.

Barr reported that she had received a call and a letter from Spring Hill Nursery in Ohio requesting membership information to be included in the annual spring newsletter sent to their customers. Barr sent the information as requested.

Barr received an inquiry about the whereabouts of the French Sevres vase given to the AIS some years ago by the Societe Francaise des Iris. Barr reported that the vase is on permanent loan to the Philbrook museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Barr has received confirmation from Henry Wulf that the AIS library material has been moved to a building in Lincoln, Nebraska, owned by the University of Nebraska.

Barr had received a letter from Dr. Waddick reporting on his trip to China. Included in this letter was a draft of a proposal about a collection of Chinese irises to be grown at the Missouri Botanic Garden and the Nanking Botanic Garden. This matter will be discussed during the Scientific Committee report.

Stayer announced that in May of this year the AIS received a donation from the Mary Hosking Living Trust.

Stayer reported that the copyright applications for the 1989 *Check List* and the *Bulletin* went through without problems. It was discovered that the 1939 *Check List* had already been copyrighted.

The AIS has received a partial shipment of 100 of the 200 RHS Colour Charts Stayer was authorized to purchase. Royal Horticulture Enterprises has sent word that fifty more are ready to be shipped. It will take several months for the last fifty charts to become available. After examining costs, Corlew moved, Stayer seconded, that the AIS continue to sell the color charts at \$45 each. Motion carried.

Stayer delivered copies of the newly revised Basic Iris Culture booklet to Board members. The initial run of 20,000 copies will be available for purchase through the Publication Sales office.

Stayer reported difficulty in contacting Attorney Glen Spain during his recent move from California to Eugene, Oregon. While noting that the inability to contact Mr. Spain will cause a delay for some sections requiring legal advice, the Board advised Stayer to continue in her efforts to contact him.

Stayer reported that Dorothy Howard requests the Board to settle the disposition of a desk and chair that have remained in her possession since she was AIS Librarian. Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that the AIS give the chair and desk to Howard. Motion carried.

Stayer announced that it is time to re-order stationery. She automatically orders stationery for all new Directors and RVPs. Other officers in need of stationery should contact Stayer by the end of this meeting. Orders for additional stationery or changes of address must be on her desk before December 15.

In closing her report, Stayer formally submitted her resignation from the office of AIS Secretary, which she has held for ten years. Citing the adage "there is a time for everything under the sun," she said she felt it was time to bow out and let someone else shoulder the duties of this office. She stated that she enjoyed her ten years as secretary, both in the work and in the contact with the people with whom she served, as well as the contact with people around the country and the world whom she met as a result of this work. She expressed her feeling that she had done the best job that she possibly could, with her primary focus being the betterment of the AIS. She thanked Ron Mullin and Carol Ramsey for their confidence in her and for convincing her that she should accept the job. She thanked all officers and directors with whom she worked during her tenure, and she especially thanked the Board for awarding her the Distinguished Service Medal, of which she is especially proud. In conclusion, she thanked Larry Stayer, her husband of 41 years, for his continued support. Secretary Stayer received a standing ovation in appreciation for her years of service.

President Barr read the report from Membership Secretary Harlow. AIS membership now totals 8,190. Regions with the largest membership are Region 14 with 738 members, followed by Region 4 with 646, Region 18 with 641 and Region 6 with 580 members.

Corlew called attention to a suggestion in Harlow's report that the Board consider the use of a color brochure for the AIS membership application. Harlow believes that a color membership application brochure would increase new member enrollment. Printing costs could be minimized by having the color brochure mailed only from the offices of the Membership Secretary and the AIS Secretary, while the lavender-colored "Invitation to Join" could be utilized for iris shows, sales and such.

Corlew moved, Stayer seconded, that a committee be authorized to investigate the costs of producing a full color printed membership invitation brochure and that the committee report back to the Executive Committee for approval when a price is determined. Motion carried.

President Barr appointed Harlow as chair for the brochure committee, with Waters and Corlew participating.

Mahan suggested that when the new color brochure becomes available a sample be sent to sections and local societies to stimulate interest in this brochure which could be made available to them at cost.

After distributing copies of the annual financial report, Treasurer Corlew reviewed the method by which the AIS collects and disperses money. He explained that all necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by directors and officers in the process of doing their jobs are reimbursable. Requests for reimbursement go to the Secretary with substantiating documents (sales slips, receipts, photo-copied bills, etc.). The Secretary has a bank account of \$4,000. Incoming bills are \$1,000 are paid from this account by checks written by the Secretary. The Secretary sends vouchers to the Treasurer to replace the funds spent from this account. Incoming bills over \$1,000 are sent with vouchers to the Treasurer, who writes a check for the amount and mails it directly to the billing source. It requires three officers of the society to make an expenditure legal. First, the Secretary, who audits the expenditure and writes the voucher; second, the President, who receives and reviews all vouchers made by the Secretary, approves them and sends them to the third party, the Treasurer, who pays the bills from the administrative account.

In the collection of funds there are two primary clearing houses: the office of the Secretary and the office of the Membership Secretary. All offices of the society that generate income remit to the office of the Secretary. This officer makes a spread sheet of the funds received and deposits the money into a transfer account maintained locally, against which the Secretary cannot write checks. The spread sheet covering the deposit with the deposit sheets attached is mailed to the Treasurer, who is authorized, along with the President, to sign on all accounts.

The Membership Secretary's office, where the dues of membership are received, also works with a transfer account into which the money received is deposited and against which the Membership Secretary is not an authorized signer. The Treasurer transfers money from this account into the administrative account against which checks are written.

It takes from two weeks to a month for a transaction to pass completely through the AIS system.

Corlew pointed out that registrations and advertising in the *Bulletin* generate income which is maintained in an independent account. At certain times this money is transferred to the Secretary's office; the Secretary includes it on a spread sheet which goes to the Treasurer.

Both Corlew and Stayer expressed pride in the fact that year after year the system has balanced right to the penny on every transaction.

Barr thanked Corlew for his excellent explanation.

Corlew distributed copies of the Proposed Budget for the year ending September 30, 1994, to be studied in the preparation for the Sunday session.

Advertising Editor Nelson-Keppel's report was read in her absence by Secretary Stayer. Nelson-Keppel's report stated that *Bulletin* advertising continues to be brisk with color growing in popularity. Corlew pointed out that the AIS received a restricted gift during the past fiscal year of \$500 for the expansion of the use of color in the *Bulletin*.

Stayer also read the Registrar's report from Nelson-Keppel. The reprinted 1949 Check List and 1959 Check List were off the press in July. Since there is a definite need for the information in these volumes, the report offered the suggestion that in addition to the usual listing on the AIS Sales Items page, a short notice of availability be made in the *Bulletin* as soon as possible.

The Registrar's report also suggested that the Board authorize the usual printing of 1,500 copies of the 1993 Registrations and Introductions booklet, to be sold at \$5 each and listed as a sales item in the January *Bulletin*. Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that the suggestion from the Nelson-Keppel report regarding the 1993 Registrations and Introductions booklet be authorized. Motion carried.

Barr read a letter from Robert Pries dealing both with registrations and with awards. Discussion on the letter was postponed until later in the meeting.

Publication Sales Director Lack distributed his report and stated that sales totaled \$49,131.67 for the year 1992 - 1993. This is an increase of approximately \$13,000 over total receipts for last year, which he attributes to sales of the 1989 Check List.

In reporting on inventory, Lack pointed out the need to reprint the membership list, last printed in 1991. Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board authorize updating the membership list and the printing of 200 copies. Motion carried.

Lack reported that covers for the Judges' Handbook are in short supply. Mahan moved, Gossett seconded, that the Secretary have 250 Judges' Handbook covers made as soon as possible. Motion carried.

The matter of the very low inventory of the 1969 Check List was discussed. Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that the Registrar be authorized to reprint the 1969 Check List in soft cover in the same quantity as the 1949 Check List and at the same relative cost. Motion carried.

Region 11 RVP Carryl Meyer asked why the Basic Iris Culture booklet is not listed in the inventory. President Barr responded that the AIS has been out of that publication for some time. Stayer added that it will be added to the list in the January *Bulletin* inasmuch as the reprints are off the press. A discussion followed with regard to mailing costs and the single-copy price. No formal action was taken.

Stahly moved, Corlew seconded, that the meeting stand in recess. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 10:45 p.m. and was reconvened on November 6, at 8:40 a.m. by President Barr.

Affiliate Chairman Niswonger reported that four affiliates have renewed since the spring report, although five Region 14 affiliates failed to renew. The active affiliate total remains at 153, repeating last year's total.

Niswonger reported that an iris society has been organized in Moscow, Russia. This group, called The Central Iris Society, first organized with thirty-two members and now numbers sixty-four. There are five honorary members, one of whom is Dr. Rodionenko. Niswonger reported on efforts being made by members of iris societies in Europe and the U.S. to come to the aid of Dr. Rodionenko and his wife, who are ill and experiencing great difficulty in obtaining medication. Niswonger spoke about some of the activities of the Moscow iris society and of the difficulties in getting plant material, information and money in or out of Russia. Barr read a letter from Dr. James Waddick concerning Dr. Rodionenko and the problems confronting him and his wife. Efforts are being made by several groups and some individuals to help the Rodionenkos.

The Awards Committee report was read by Stayer in the absence of Awards Chairman Jones. Of the 820 ballots mailed to accredited judges, 634 were returned by the July 1 deadline. A listing of the number and kinds of awards resulting from this year's voting was followed by an inventory listing of medals and certificates.

Jones' report stated that all regions returned symposium results, and ballots were received from six overseas members. Once again, approximately 21% of AIS members voted, repeating last year's percentage. Region 12 had the highest percentage voting in 1993 with 49%. Region 11 was second, and Region 14 had the highest number of voters casting ballots with 173. The five irises receiving the most votes were DUSKY CHALLENGER, BEVERLY SILLS, JESSE'S SONG, EDITH WOLFORD, and SILVERADO.

Niswonger reported on the work he and Jones are doing in connection with the "keeper" trophies for the President's Cup and the Franklin Cook Cup. He explained that the shipment of the new keeper trophies for these awards was in transit but had not arrived. He expressed regret that he was unable to have examples on hand for this meeting.

Barr returned to the letter from Robert Pries read at an earlier session. Pries has been trying to encourage commercial nurseries to register irises instead of just selling them under any name they choose. His letter posed questions about the eligibility status for awards of irises which, although previously offered by commercial nurseries for sale without registration, are finally registered, and whether or not the date of introduction, which in these cases predates the date of registration, would prevent a late-registered iris from entering the awards system. During the discussion that followed, it was stressed that it is important to register irises, and that an iris becomes eligible for awards when registered, regardless of age or lapsed time since introduction. The name of a late-registered, pre-introduced iris would not, however, appear on the awards ballot, but it would be eligible for an HM award if it were to receive enough write-in votes. It was pointed out that what Pries wants to be able to tell commercial nurserymen is technically correct and reflects a policy that is already in place. D. Willott, Region 6 RVP, spoke to the need to remind judges that they can always write in the name of an iris for an HM award. Schmieder, Region 1 RVP, noted that registration is a requirement for named clones to be eligible for show awards, and this might serve as an added inducement to nurserymen and others to register the clones they offer for sale. Barr ended discussion on the Pries letter by stating that when replying she would inform Pries that his letter had produced a most interesting discussion.

Convention Liaison Mahan distributed copies of his report listing the schedule for spring conventions through 1999.

Mahan moved, Stayer seconded, that the Board accept Oklahoma City as the host city for the 1999 spring meeting. Motion carried. The Sooner State Iris Society will sponsor the 1999 spring convention, with Ron Mullin to serve as chair.

Mahan moved, Stayer seconded, that Oklahoma City be approved as the host city for the 1995 fall meeting. Motion carried. The Oklahoma Iris Society will host the meeting, with Genevieve Followwill to serve as chair.

The meeting recessed for a ten minute break at 9:35 a.m.

Library Endowment Committee Chairman Mahan opened the discussion on the selection of the site to locate

the AIS library. He noted that just prior to this meeting, President Barr had sent each voting member of the Board a packet containing material that had accumulated since the spring meeting, which included letters, reports from people who had visited one of the sites and other information directly bearing on the selection of a site for the AIS library.

Before discussing the material in the site information packet, Mahan read a letter he had received from Henry Wulf. The letter reported the moving of the AIS files and documents by Region 21 members from Ponca, Nebraska, to a storage area on University of Nebraska property in Lincoln, Nebraska; the execution of a lease on this location for one year through July 31, 1994; the contracting for insurance on the material in storage, and an itemized accounting of costs incurred to date. These costs totaled \$1,576.13. Wulf stated that he wishes the Board to understand that there is no urgency to move these materials again until July 31, 1994.

Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the expenses incurred in moving the AIS library be paid out of the AIS general fund. Motion carried.

It was clarified that material belonging to the AIS Foundation and some additional AIS material remain at Harder's house in Ponca and were not included in the move to the Lincoln location.

Concerns about presorting the library material before moving it again, as suggested by Wulf in his letter, were voiced and discussed.

Stahly noted that the Board has never addressed the questions of what the AIS library should be, or what should be stored there, or what services it should provide. Mahan expressed his opinion that basically the library should serve to preserve the information and knowledge gathered by the AIS in its seventy-five years of existence.

Mahan referred to a letter from Robert Hall, immediate past-president of the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society concerning the original proposal submitted to the AIS Board recommending the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland, as the location for the AIS Library. This proposal had included expense believed to be in keeping with the guidelines given by the Library Committee, but which had kept the Board from giving the proposal due consideration. The Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society was requesting that the NAL be reconsidered as an AIS Library location without the inclusion of this expense.

President Barr introduced Ken Hector, Mayor of Silverton, Oregon. Mayor Hector, one of the three representatives who presented the Silverton proposal to the Board in Fort Worth, traveled to Tulsa to further emphasize the qualifications and desire on the part of the City of Silverton to house the AIS library. A lengthy discussion period followed the mayor's presentation.

Stayer posed the question of whether or not the Board intends to include AIS artifacts as part of the AIS library. Witt moved, McWhirter seconded, that the Board particularly separate the subject of artifacts from the subject of the library materials and deal with the subject of artifacts in the future. Motion carried.

President Barr introduced Joyce Reynolds from Dresden, Tennessee, representing the City of Dresden, who spoke to the advantages and appropriateness of the Dresden site.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12 noon and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

Discussion about the library location continued following the luncheon recess.

It was decided that there would be two written ballots to arrive at a resolution. The site receiving the least number of votes would be eliminated on the first ballot. The second ballot would decide the winner between the two remaining sites. It was determined that there were seventeen voting Board members present. President Barr appointed a counting committee composed of Perry Dyer, Michael Moller and James Morris.

Dresden received the majority of votes on the second ballot and was declared the newly selected site for the AIS Library.

The discussion following the voting focused on the need to negotiate a contract with the City of Dresden before the 1994 spring meeting.

Niswonger moved, Corlew seconded, that Mahan be given authority to engage an attorney to assist in drawing up a contract with the City of Dresden with regards to the AIS library, at a cost to be approved by the Executive Committee. Motion carried.

Mahan stated that he would like to pursue the possibility of obtaining a federal grant for the library.

Mahan was instructed to negotiate the contract and to submit any fees necessary to accomplish this to the Executive Committee for approval. He was further instructed to pursue a proposal for a federal grant and to report his findings to the Board at the spring meeting.

Niswonger expressed concern about disposing of anything in the AIS library collection before the collection is moved from Lincoln to Dresden.

Mahan moved, Witt seconded, that all things in the AIS library collection be moved to Dresden intact. Motion carried.

Editor Mullin reported that the copy for the January *Bulletin* has been mailed to the printer. He requested Board direction on the disposal of a large number of color keys in his possession. Color keys, the proofs that are generated by each full color picture that appears in the *Bulletin*, are the property of the AIS. The value of the color keys and the other ways in which they might be utilized were discussed. Mahan moved, Crick seconded, that the color keys be retained at least until it can be determined if they are of use for the new iris book. Motion carried.

Mullin reported that over a period of time he has received a number of manuscripts of the work done by Homer Metcalf from Dr. Norlan Henderson. Installments of these manuscripts have arrived periodically. The first two installments were printed individually in the *Bulletin* without the realization that there were more to follow. The length of the subsequent manuscripts is beyond the capacity of the *Bulletin* to print, and the material, highly scientific and technical, is in need of peer review. At some unspecified earlier time, an agreement was made to publish Metcalf's work, but Mullin advises that the *Bulletin* is not the proper place to do this, and he would like Board direction.

President Barr asked Witt to review the manuscripts of this important work and forward them to Scientific Committee Chair Fulton for further evaluation.

Aitken observed that color pictures of the award winners could be economically inserted into the October *Bulletin* by printing them on the inside front and inside back covers which, because they are color photo-ready pages already, will reduce the cost of adding additional color photos. Corlew noted that there is a restricted gift of

\$500 to use for color photos in the *Bulletin*. Aitken moved, McWhirter seconded, that medal winners be published in color in future years. Motion carried.

Mullin announced with regret the resignation of Larry Stayer from the position of *Bulletin* Photo Coordinator and praised Stayer for his long service and good work in this position.

Niswonger read a letter from Sheldon Butt, Editor of *The Medianite*, which raised questions about some *Bulletin* policies directly relating to AIS sections and their activities. Specifically in question were the policy governing the advertising or publicizing of section events (such as conventions) in the *Bulletin* and the policy not to reprint articles that have appeared in section publications.

Following discussion of the first of these questions, Aitken moved, Stahly seconded, that AIS sections be allowed to publicize their mini-conventions free of charge in the *Bulletin*. Motion carried.

Following discussion on the second policy question, Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that the editor be allowed to use his discretion and judgment in reprinting any previously published material that he thinks is of value to the *AIS Bulletin*. Motion carried.

President Barr called a ten minute recess.

Exhibitions Chairman Gristwood distributed a report detailing the record-high number of AIS shows scheduled for 1993. Only 9 of the 206 shows scheduled had to be canceled, mostly as a result of the floods and severe weather. Once again Region 18 held the most shows, followed by Region 14 and Region 6. JESSE'S SONG, selected best specimen in seven shows, won the Nelson Award. The AIS provided 125 sets of medals to regions and affiliate societies.

Gristwood emphasized the need for show chairs to write legibly and spell accurately when filing show reports. Too often the names of winning entries, as well as the names of the people who entered them, are misspelled on the reports she receives. She added that she marks all letters going out of her office with a file reference number, and she requests that people refer to that number when responding as it gives her a reference for identifying the writer and hastens the speed of her reply.

Gristwood announced the arrival of the new show medals and displayed a sample for Board members to examine. She expressed great pleasure with these new medals.

Gristwood requested Board authorization for the purchase of a replacement for her old typewriter. Corlew moved, Waters seconded, that the Board authorize Gristwood to buy a word processor to replace her old typewriter for an amount not in excess of \$400. Motion carried.

In answer to Stayer's request for Board authorization to order 10,000 "Invitation to Join" brochures to restock Gristwood's low supply, Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the Exhibitions Chairman's stock of "Invitation to Join" brochures be reordered as requested. Motion carried.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn reported that the Foundation's income for the past year reached only \$10,000, a drop of 33% from the average reported at Fort Worth for recent years. Because the amount that can be awarded is tied to the Foundation's annual income, grants awarded this year will be limited accordingly. Since the Foundation has received only \$3,800 in contributions and earned only \$2,800 in interest income, it would seem unlikely that a \$10,000 annual income for the present year will be attained. A few contributions designated for the Library Fund have been received. Pettijohn echoed Gristwood's plea for people to write legibly. It is most important to Foundation work because correct and legible donor and next-of-kin information is necessary for sending the acknowledgement as well as the announcement of the donation.

Historical Chairman Harder reported that the AIS has received from Florence Stout a gift of a complete set of Region 9 publications, which includes the Northern Illinois Iris Society and the Southern Illinois Iris Society plus sporadic regional bulletins. Harder thanked Stout for her gift. Gristwood has sent show schedules for the past three years, and Lineberger has promised to send his collection of section publications. Harder reminded everyone that he should be receiving copies of region publications from all regions. He asked that Region publication mailing lists be checked to make sure his name is included.

Judges' Training Chairman Crick distributed copies of her report, which presented statistics for the year on judges' activities and showed changes to the judges' roster.

Crick recommended Board approval for the 1994 roster of judges, which included the following list of new Master Judges:

Region 3—Elizabeth Unruh

Region 4—Mrs. Glenn Grigg, Jr., Mrs. Paul D. Kabler, Dr. A. W. Rice, Mrs. Richard D. Steele, Mrs. James H. Trent

Region 5—Joe Scott Watson, John W. Wood

Region 6—Mrs. Albert DeHaan, Jack E. Norrick, Mrs. Jack E. Norrick

Region 7—Mrs. Lee A. Irwin, Mrs. George D. Slade

Region 8—Joan Cooper

Region 9—Orville Dickhaut, Mrs. Orville Dickhaut

Region 10—Mrs. Hubert Rena

Region 13—Kay Nelson-Keppel, Frank H. Nickell

Region 14—Gigi Hall

Region 15—Debbie Humphries

Region 20—Mrs. Morris James

Region 22—Paul W. Black

OVERSEAS

Australia—Graeme Grosvenor

France—Jean Cayeux, Dr. Jean Segui

Stahly moved, Witt seconded, approval of the judges as listed on Crick's report. Motion carried.

Membership Contest Chairman Wilhoit announced that the 1993 membership contest will close on December 10. The Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society leads the affiliates, and Region 4 leads the regions in the contest to date.

Stayer read the report from Policy Chairman Lowe in his absence. Prior to the fall meeting, Lowe had mailed copies of action taken at the last meeting to members of the Board.

Public Relations Chairman Waters reported the arrival of the 1994 AIS Calendar. She remarked on the difficulty in obtaining color slides of sufficient sharpness to support color separation as required for printing in the AIS Calendar, the AIS postcards and the *Bulletin*. She offered tips to photographers on how to obtain clearer slides.

Waters gave a progress report on the production of a new set of postcards. Once more, she issued a request for clear slides for reproduction.

Waters announced that an AIS Member, Robert Plank, will have his slide of CONJURATION, the 1993 winner of the Premio Firenze, printed in the British Iris Society Yearbook.

Waters has been contacted by a British author requesting information for a biography he is writing on Caparne. Anyone having information that might be of use should contact Waters.

Mahan suggested that a good public relations action for local societies is to give a local garden writer a membership in the AIS. Waters, agreeing with Mahan, suggested that the membership directory of the Garden Writers of America provides the names of garden writers in a given area who might be deserving of a membership.

Robins Chairman Brookins distributed copies of a draft of a welcome letter to be included in the new-member packet with the intention of clarifying the nature of robins and offering direction on where to find information on special interests. Brookins will ask Harlow to review the letter, and the two of them will work together to draw up the final copy for the membership packet.

RVP Counselor Stahly announced that forty Past RVP pins are available for retired and retiring RVPs. Starting this year, these pins will be given annually without charge to RVPs going out of office. Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the AIS provide the Past-RVP pin to all retiring RVPs who have served at least one year. Motion carried.

A discussion followed in an effort to set up guidelines for the distribution of these pins.

Stahly moved, Gossett seconded, that these pins be available for purchase by Regional Vice Presidents for Past-RVPs in any or all Regions, that they be ordered through the AIS Secretary's office, that the Secretary keep a record of the persons for whom they are ordered, and that the Secretary direct the Sales Director to ship them. Motion carried.

Stahly offered a suggestion he received from Carryl Meyer, current chairman of RVPs, that incoming RVPs be invited to the fall meeting of the AIS Board of Directors and that they be encouraged to attend this meeting in advance of their taking office. No official action was taken, but Stahly will try this suggestion next year.

Scholarship Chairman Witt observed that Scholarship Committee activity during the second half of 1993 has been minimal. Nathan Lange of Davis, California, who was awarded the 1993-94 AIS scholarship in April, received the first \$1,000 at the start of the fall term. Members of the Scholarship Committee serving with Witt are Philip Ogilvie, Sharon McAllister, Elsiemae Nicholson and James Waddick. Witt stated that these people will be asked to serve again.

President Barr read Scientific Committee Chairman Fulton's report in his absence. After a brief summary of the work in progress, which has thus far generated no expenses for the AIS, Fulton requested on behalf of the committee that the funds approved at the spring meeting remain available to them, on the same terms, for another year so that this study can continue through the summer of 1994.

Mahan moved, Witt seconded, that Fulton's request be granted. Motion carried.

Barr stated that she will check with Fulton and Waddick about Waddick's proposal for an international collection of Asian irises.

Stayer read Section Liaison Lineberger's report, which outlined briefly the work done with the sections since the Fort Worth meeting. Detailed reports were sent to the President and the Secretary.

James Morris requested Board approval for the MIS to seek legal advice from someone other than Attorney Spain and to be allowed to use the \$500 legal advice allowance even though they are engaging an attorney other than Spain, as long as all bills for this service are submitted through normal channels.

Following discussion, Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that the AIS authorize the sections to be paid up to \$500 to employ legal advice for their incorporation as separate organizations of AIS. Motion carried, with Niswonger abstaining.

Slides Chairman Moller reported that although he has not yet received slide materials from Chairman Shockey, he has some ideas for new programs and changes in existing programs. He pointed out that the slide programs pay for themselves. Moller is interested in increasing the AIS slides library with individual slides and with program collections, and he is requesting input from members.

Youth Chairman Jean Morris reported a total of 164 youth members, a gain of four since 1992. Region 18 leads all regions with a total of 29 youth members, while five regions, Regions 3, 10, 11, 12 and 16, have no Regional Youth Chairman and reflect this by a total of one youth member for all five regions. Morris informed the Board that two classrooms in different parts of the country have expressed an interest in an AIS Youth Program, but there is no provision in the AIS for a class to join the AIS in the youth category. A discussion followed which produced many ideas about encouraging individual and classroom involvement and about encouraging local affiliates to become involved in classroom sponsorship. Incorporating some of the ideas expressed today, Morris volunteered to put together a proposal to present to the spring Board meeting addressing the classroom sponsorship issue and suggesting changes to the show schedule which will ease restrictions governing youth participation.

The meeting recessed at 5:20 p.m. to reconvene after dinner at 8:30 p.m.

RVP Counselor Stahly distributed lists of the appointment recommendations for Regional Vice President.

Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, approval of a continuing appointment for all RVPs whose term limits are '94 and '95.

(Having served two years - '94 limit)

Region 3 Larry Westfall; 6 Dorothy Willott; 8 Dr. Norman Frisch; 9 C. J. Simon; 11 Carryl Meyer; 14 Bryce Williamson; 18 Riley Probst; 22 Paul Gossett.

(Having served one year - '95 limit)

Region 1 Barbara Schmieder; 2 John Schueler; 4 Roy Epperson; 5 Claire Honkanen; 17 Gordon Green; 20 Michael Moller; 21 Roger Mazur; 23 Maxine Perkins.

Motion carried.

Stahly moved, Harder seconded, that the Board approve eight new Regional Vice Presidents with terms beginning January, 1994.

Region 7 Jerry Gifford; 10 Mrs. Hubert Rena; 12 Cathy Hagan Reed; 13 Marky D. Smith; 15 Bill Rinehart; 16 Catherine Boyko; 19 Joseph John Griner; 24 Joe Christopher.

Motion carried.

Stahly called forward the two retiring RVPs attending this meeting, Joanne King (7) and T. A. Gilliam (24), and after thanking them for their work, presented them with the first two Past RVP pins given by The American Iris Society.

Stahly reported receiving a request to purchase one of the RVP pins to be presented to the widow of a past RVP. Niswonger moved, McWhirter seconded, that the Board make an exception and honor a request to allow the purchase of an RVP pin by a society within Region 22 to be awarded posthumously without setting precedent. Motion carried.

Stahly, responding to a question from Caryl Meyer, stated that RVP telephone numbers will be printed in the *Bulletin* starting with the April issue.

Wilhoit, Chairman of the Awards for Foreign-bred Irises Committee, reported that this committee has been combined with the Committee to Re-Study Awards, and that the subject of foreign awards will be discussed under that committee's report.

President Barr called on the Committee to Re-study Awards, chaired by Mahan, with Jones, Keppel, Rigby, Stahly and Waite participating.

Mahan distributed a report which listed in two numbered sets reasons in favor of and against limiting AIS awards to irises of North American origination. The Committee's printed report states.

The committee did not reach a consensus. There was general agreement that the "real questions . . . are not so much practical as they are philosophical." Philosophical questions being matters of values, they are not easily solved. By putting forth the "pros and cons" of the issues, we have better defined the problem, but not solved it.

The Committee developed a list of "pros and cons" on limiting AIS awards to irises of North American origination. These are detailed below:

Reasons for Limiting AIS Awards to Irises of North American Origination:

1. It brings all garden awards eligibility into line with eligibility rules for the Dykes Medal. (The Dykes Medal is donated by the British Iris Society for the best iris of North American origination.)

2. If a foreign origination won the top award in a given section, e.g., *spuria*, that section would have no contender for that year for the Dykes Medal.

3. Some other countries have their own awards systems and North American originations are not eligible for their awards.

4. Allowing foreign originations to be eligible for AIS awards is detrimental to the encouragement of national iris societies in other countries with their own awards systems.

5. It is difficult to determine what "introduction" is for determining eligibility for an iris of foreign origination.

6. The alternative, i.e., creating special awards for irises of foreign origination, would put them in a special "spotlight" and possibly give more recognition to them than in the past. The rules for such awards would be clearer than the "introduction" requirement.

7. It will have an effect on only a small number of irises, if past history is a guide, because only a few have been introduced in this country.

Reasons for Not Limiting AIS Awards to Irises of North American Origination:

1. The AIS serves as the International Registry for Rhizomous Irises, and therefore, our view should be international, and we should serve as a leader in the development and search for new species, encouraging registration so they might be known throughout the world.

2. The By-Laws of the AIS imply that one of our goals is to improve irises in general—not American irises.

3. Most countries do not have iris societies to encourage iris lovers to hybridize or select exceptional cultivars from the wild.

4. The action of the Board has caused or could cause bad feelings from our foreign iris hybridizers, many of whom are members of the AIS.

5. Efforts to get Japanese irises originating in Japan registered in the U.S. will be adversely impacted.

6. It will remove a strong motivation for foreign hybridizers to send their irises to the U.S.

7. It will automatically exclude now foreign TBs from the Popularity Symposium because they will no longer come onto the ballot since they cannot win HMs. Outstanding TBs such as current No. 81 (TOMORROW'S CHILD) could not get on in the future unless Symposium rules are changed.

8. It makes the AIS look xenophobic in the way it was done.

9. The AIS could more easily end up giving awards to irises inferior to foreign originations, especially in such areas as arils, Louisianas, Japanese, Siberians and species at present and other areas in the future.

10. The problem of defining what "introduction" is for irises of foreign origination can be solved by establishing rules without the need to eliminate them from consideration for AIS awards.

He added that this is a very deep and divisive issue, basically aligning members along clearly philosophical lines. One side of the line holds that The American Iris Society awards should be awarded to outstanding American irises, while the other side of the line holds that The American Iris Society awards should be awarded to outstanding irises without regard to place of origin.

After reading the AIS by-laws to establish the original definition of the society's purpose and direction, Niswonger pointed out the by-laws offer no objective assistance in deciding this question, and that except for the use of the word "American" in the name of the society, no distinctions are made along national lines. An interesting and spirited discussion followed with many participants contributing perspectives and insights from

both sides of the issue. Discussion reinforced the position that this is a philosophical issue, and that it is not being regarded in a cavalier and casual manner by members of the AIS or their representatives on the Board.

President Barr pointed out that though committees have been studying this question for the past year, no solution is in sight. She further observed that this question needs to be resolved now.

Earlier in his report, Mahan had proposed three possible resolutions. In the interest of moving the Board in the direction of taking action, Niswonger suggested that Mahan choose one of those resolutions, propose it, and let the Board work it out.

Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board restore to the AIS awards system the eligibility of all irises first introduced in the United States or Canada regardless of origin. It is the hybridizer's responsibility to inform the AIS registrar by sending tangible evidence of the introduction notice and to guarantee in writing that the iris has not been introduced elsewhere before it was introduced in the United States or Canada. The definition of "introduced" is "offered for sale." Motion carried.

The report from The AIS 75th Anniversary Committee Chairman Rasmussen was read by Secretary Stayer. The committee received 21 requests for entry forms for the 1995 poster contest. Accompanying his report, Rasmussen included a few copies of these forms to be made available to Board members who know of someone who would be interested. He requested that he be sent the name and address of anyone to whom an entry form is given.

Referring to action taken at the spring meeting in Fort Worth which put Japanese irises on the same ballot and voting schedule with all other irises (pending final approval at the fall meeting) and reflecting the overwhelming consensus of the members of The Society for Japanese Irises, Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the past practice of having a second ballot for Japanese irises remain in place. Motion carried.

Harder reported that he had been unsuccessful in his efforts to investigate the merits of and the procedure for obtaining blanket liability insurance coverage for the AIS comparable to the policy covering the American Hemerocallis Society. Investigation about obtaining insurance coverage will be pursued further.

Crick reported on the subject of revising the Judges' Handbook. A committee to study, recommend and draft Judges' Handbook revision needs will be appointed by President Barr.

Mullin reported that all revision work on the RVP Handbook was completed in May, and the new handbooks are available.

President Barr relinquished the chair to Vice President Niswonger for the beginning of the election of officers. Stahly nominated Barr for President; Waters seconded. Corlew moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. McWhirter seconded, motion carried.

Barr resumed the chair. Mahan nominated Niswonger for 1st Vice President; Corlew seconded. Waite moved that nominations cease and that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Stahly seconded, motion carried.

Niswonger nominated Mahan for 2nd Vice President. Plank seconded. Corlew moved, Waters seconded, that nominations cease and the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried.

Waters nominated Plank for Secretary. Mahan seconded. Niswonger moved that nominations cease and the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Aitken seconded, motion carried.

Niswonger nominated Corlew for Treasurer, Gossett seconded. Mahan moved that nominations cease and the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Waite seconded, motion carried.

Crick nominated Mullin for Editor, Gristwood seconded. McWhirter moved that nominations cease and the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot. Stahly seconded, motion carried.

The Board adjourned to executive session to discuss the report from the Honorary Awards Committee.

Following the closed session, Barr announced that upon the recommendations of the Honorary Awards Committee the Gold Medal has been awarded to Kay Nelson-Keppel and Robert Schreiner. The Distinguished Service Medal has been awarded to C. J. Lack. The Hybridizer's Medal has been awarded to Allan Ensminger, and on the recommendation of Judges and Judges' Training Chairman Crick, Emeritus Judge status has been awarded to Joseph Ghio.

Barr appointed the following administrative officers:

Registrar	Kay Nelson-Keppel	Recording Secretary	Temporarily vacant
Membership Secretary	Marilyn Harlow	Advertising Editor	Kay Nelson-Keppel
Publication Sales Director	C. J. Lack		

Gossett moved, Harder seconded, that these appointments be accepted. Motion carried.

Barr appointed the following chairmen of standing committees:

Affiliates	O. David Niswonger	Public Relations	Olive Rice Waters
Awards	Melody Wilhoit	Registrations	Keith Keppel
Convention Liaison	Clarence Mahan	Robins	Howard Brookins
Exhibitions	Lillian Gristwood	RVP Counselor	Dr. Harold Stahly
Foundation Liaison	Richard Pettijohn	Scholarship	Jean Witt
Historical	Larry Harder	Scientific	Dr. Chandler Fulton
Honorary Awards	Kenneth Waite	Section Liaison	Terry Aitken
Judges and Judges Training	Hilda Crick	Slides	Michael Moller
Membership Contest	James McWhirter	Youth	Jean Morris
Policy	Mike Lowe		

Harder moved, Aitken seconded, that these appointments be approved. Motion carried. Stayer pointed out that her resignation had not been officially accepted. Corlew moved, Waters seconded, that Stayer's resignation be accepted with extreme regret. Motion carried. Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, a resolution of thanks to Stayer for a time-consuming and difficult job well done. Motion carried, followed by a standing round of applause in appreciation.

Stayer explained that the change in the Secretary's office will require a transition period which might take as long as eight months. Various aspects of this transition period were discussed. Stayer asked for Board direction in disposing of old records. The Board directed Stayer to keep and pass on to the new Secretary all records going back five years plus the year in progress and to dispose of older records.

Barbara Schmieder reported on the Wister Medal Fund, reading a list of contributors. The Fund has collected

approximately \$4,300 to date.

The winner of the Wister Medal design award was Nancy Harkins. Because the vote was close, it was decided to award runner-up Dr. James Waddick a \$50 gift certificate for irises. The Wister Medal will be cast sometime in early spring and will be ready for the Portland convention, where it will be awarded for the first time. Although it will not be certain until the mold is cast and the bids are received, the Committee believes enough money has been collected. They have placed a hold on donations to the fund until further notice. Schmieder expressed thanks to all the groups and individuals who gave so generously to this fund.

Barr thanked Schmieder and her committee for work well done.

The meeting stood in recess, to reconvene at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, November 7.

Barr opened the morning session at 8:45 a.m. and recognized Lack, who expressed thanks to the Board for honoring him with the Distinguished Service Medal.

The proposed budget was reviewed. After making the necessary adjustments to reflect action taken during this meeting, Treasurer Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board adopt the adjusted proposed budget. Motion carried.

Corlew recommended no change in the salaries for paid employees for the coming year.

President Barr explained that she had received a letter from the Citizen Ambassador Program and, after reading it, had referred the material to Waters for review. There was agreement that this was not a practical program for the AIS to consider.

Barr announced the appointment of Terry Aitken, chair, and Larry Harder and Barbara Schmieder to form the Committee to Investigate the Relationship between the AIS National Conventions and the Sections' Mini-conventions. Waters moved, Niswonger seconded, that the appointments be approved. Motion carried.

Before adjourning the 1993 fall meeting, Barr announced that the 1994 fall Board meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on November 4, 5 and 6.

Barr thanked RVP Paul Gossett and the Tulsa Area Iris Society for their gracious hospitality.

Jeanne Clay Plank, *Recording Secretary*

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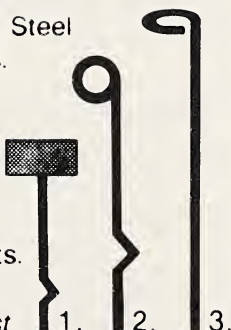
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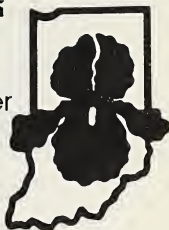
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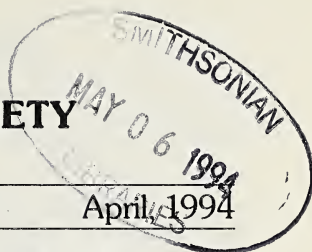
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On The Cover: A planting of tall bearded irises in California by Bill Maryott.
Photo provided by Maryott's.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

This past year has been difficult for many of our members all across the nation what with disastrous floods in the Midwest, severe winter storms over much of the country, and terrible fires and earthquakes in California. To any of you who were affected, our sincere wishes for a better year ahead and a spring filled with iris bloom. This is the time to clean up flower beds, to get ready for shows, and to make plans for visiting gardens. It is also a time to welcome new members and beginning gardeners into our midst. A friendly greeting can go a long way toward making someone want to come back to more iris meetings and other functions. New members can sense a feeling of welcome and are more likely to stay around to participate in club activities. A friendly attitude on the part of club members is essential toward building strong local societies, strong regional organizations, and a strong AIS. A positive attitude can be a valuable asset anywhere; in the case of the AIS, the benefits of positive thinking can be felt at all levels, local, regional, and national.

A special welcome should be extended to youth members and young adults, who are the real future of the society. Somewhere out there there are young people who know little or nothing about planting a rhizome, or watching a bud open, or making a cross, or grooming an iris for the show bench, and who are missing out on a hobby which could change their lives. Please don't let them be disappointed!

At the fall meeting of the Board of Directors in Tulsa, the city of Dresden, Tennessee, was chosen as the site for the AIS library. More news will be forthcoming as details are worked out. The Board decided, also, to restore to the AIS awards system the eligibility of all irises first introduced in the United States or Canada regardless of origin. These were difficult decisions, reached after much deliberation. Now, it is time to move forward.

The Portland Convention lies just ahead. Indications are that it will be one of the largest ever. We hope to see many of you there. If you are not planning to come to Portland, try to attend a regional meeting, visit local gardens, and participate in your local show. While you are enjoying the beauties of the iris world this spring, look around you for someone with whom you might share the pleasures of membership in The American Iris Society.

AIS MEDAL WINNERS



Allan Ensminger



Kay Nelson-Keppel



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Bernard, Connie & Robert Schreiner



ROBERT SCHREINER IS WINNER OF GOLD MEDAL

Robert Schreiner has a history of irises as long as the history of the AIS, as he has been involved with the genus *Iris* most of his life. It was from his father, F. X. Schreiner, that he learned about and soon became enamored with his favorite flower. F. X. Schreiner sent out his first mailing piece on irises in 1925—a folder listing the best irises available at that time. Under Robert's guidance this publication evolved into the annual *Iris Lover's Catalog*. After the untimely death of his father in 1931, Robert, at the age of 21, took up the family iris business. He was later joined by his sister, Connie, and his younger brother, Bernard, affectionately known to everyone as "Gus." By 1938 all three Schreiner children were actively involved with irises and had turned the hobby of their father into a livelihood.

Robert Schreiner first began breeding irises at the age of 14 with the encouragement of his father. He soon found a seedling deemed worthy of introduction and put it on the market in 1935 as the first introduction under the Schreiner name. It was LUCREZIA BORI. During the next few years many early Schreiner seedlings, such as MARCO POLO, GOLDEN TREASURE and ETHIOP QUEEN, were introduced into commerce. These were forerunners for breeding lines that for over 60 years have garnered the Schreiner firm an unprecedented number of awards including six Dykes Medals (BLUE SAPPHIRE, AMETHYST FLAME, STEPPING OUT, VICTORIA FALLS, TITAN'S GLORY and DUSKY CHALLENGER). The Schreiners were honored with the AIS Hybridizer's Award in 1954 and the Foster Memorial Plaque by the British Iris Society in 1963 in recognition of their numerous breeding achievements.

Also, in the 1930s Robert imported *Iris pumila* seeds from Crimea, Romania and Vienna. Selections from these imports, named and introduced as CARPATHIA, SULINA and NANA, were prominent parents in what eventually came to be known as standard dwarf bearded irises. In the 1940s early Schreiner Intermediates such as MERMAID and ALASKA came on the scene. Interest in both of these smaller and earlier blooming irises was not as great in those years as it is today. It was with Robert's help, among many others, that these types of iris gained popularity and found their own place in the iris world.

In addition to his work with the Schreiner firm, Robert has always been one of the hardest workers for The American Iris Society. He served two terms on the AIS Board of Directors (1931-1937 and 1961-1963) for a total of nine years. This work alternated with various stints on AIS Committees, such as the Scientific Committee, and his many years as AIS Slides Chairman. On the local AIS level, Robert served actively in Region 13 and with the Greater Portland Iris Society. He also contributed his time to each of the National AIS Conventions held in Oregon. Such tireless devotion to irises has garnered him the Lifetime Service Medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1975 and the Distinguished Service Medal from the Perennial Plant Association in 1988.

Through it all Bob's love of the iris flower has never wavered. This passion has won him the friendship of iris lovers from around the world. The American Iris Society Gold Medal, only the tenth such award ever granted in AIS history, is an honor he will surely cherish most of all.

GOLD MEDAL AWARDED TO KAY NELSON-KEPPEL

Kay Nelson-Keppel first began working with AIS when her father, J. Arthur Nelson, was AIS Awards Chairman. She counted the ballots, and she jokingly says that she sent her children to every Bible school in town during the summer so that she would have a little spare time with no interruptions. The children are adults now, and Kay is still working, harder than ever, for AIS.

From 1965 to 1973 Kay assisted her father while he edited the *Bulletin* of AIS. She was named Registrar and Advertising Editor. She still holds both positions. As Advertising Editor, Kay prepares copy for all ads in the *Bulletin*. As Registrar, she maintains files of names, descriptions, etc., for every iris registered and introduced. Awards ballots are based on the records from her office.

Each year Kay prepares the copy for the annual Registrations and Introductions booklet. She proofs, secures bids, types, oversees publication, and prods the publisher if the work is moving too slowly. Then, every ten years, Kay goes through the same process to give us the CHECK LIST for the decade. In recent years reprints of some earlier CHECK LISTS have been in the capable hands of our Registrar.

Thousands of potential iris names are checked by Kay to see if they can be used on a new cultivar. Once approval is given, Kay receives the registration fee, enters vital information on the new iris into the records, and later, she receives catalogs, etc., proving that the iris has been introduced.

Just as important as the work she does is her loyalty to the many advertisers and hybridizers. They are all special to her, and she does all in her power to assure them of their importance to AIS and the world of irises. Kay is a "people" person, and every editor sings her praises because her work helps them so much in the production of the *Bulletin*.

Kay graduated from Central High School in Omaha, where her father was principal, and from the University of Nebraska with a degree in business law. She has lived in Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, California, and now resides in Oregon with her husband, Keith Keppel. In every state she made many friends both in the iris world and outside it.

Not only did Kay work closely with her father in his iris activities, but she was also involved in some of the many works of her mother, Irene. Although Kay had three sons and a daughter and held down a job, she still found time to take on other jobs. In 1990, she was in charge of registrations for the AIS Convention in Omaha.

Kay has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by AIS, and she has been commended many times for her outstanding work by hybridizers and AIS Officers. Now, because of her dedicated work, Kay Nelson-Keppel is awarded the highest honor in AIS, the Gold Medal.

HYBRIDIZER'S MEDAL GOES TO ALLAN ENSMINGER

Two Knowlton Medals, a Sass Medal, 15 Awards of Merit, 44 Honorable Mention Awards, and a President's Cup are proof that Allan Ensminger is a noted hybridizer. Add to those honors several more awards in Region 21, in the Loomis Test Garden, in international competition, and the fact that AZ AP came very close to winning a Dykes Medal, and Allan Ensminger emerges as the winner of the AIS Hybridizer's Medal.

Allan has been called the "Wizard of Odds" because of his streaked and mottled introductions. He works with bearded irises in his garden near Lincoln, Nebraska. His introductions range from standard dwarf to tall bearded, and they come in an array of colors rarely seen.

Allan was born in Louisville and moved to Akron as a small child. It was at Kent State that he met Gladys, the woman who became his wife 60 years ago this year. His main hybridizing goal has been to produce a beautiful pink amoena to be named for Gladys. Another goal is to produce a good iris that has variegated tricolored foliage and a variegated flower. It has proven to be a difficult task.

He began hybridizing in 1957, and he grows three-to-seven thousand seedlings each year. Since 1946 irises have been an important part of his life.

Three children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren keep Allan and Gladys on the go. Their iris garden, which was on tour during the 1990 convention, continues to bring them pleasure. Irises from that garden have brought Allan many awards, and they have brought beauty to the gardens of others.

C. J. LACK IS AWARDED DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

In 1987, C. J. Lack became the Publication Sales Director of AIS. Thirty years earlier, when he and wife Kitty planted the few rhizomes given them by a friend, he never dreamed that one day he would turn one room of his home into a storage library for AIS sales materials. It didn't occur to him that he and Kitty would load their car with a supply of AIS materials and drive to conventions where they would set up a table and spend hours making these materials available to members. But that's what they did! This dedication and the prompt manner in which orders are filled led the Board of Directors to award the Distinguished Service Medal to C. J. Lack.

C. J. was born in Okemah, Oklahoma. He became a member of the Tulsa Area Iris Society at its second meeting in 1962. In 1963, the Lacks joined AIS and have been members every year since then, except 1968 to 1972 when they lived in Monrovia, Liberia in West Africa. He now belongs to iris clubs in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Ponca City, and Stillwater. He also belongs to hemerocallis clubs in those same cities.

The Lacks maintain a large and beautiful garden featuring irises, daylilies, and other flowers. They travel extensively to visit gardens, shows, and sales, and always, they give generously of their time and their plants.

C. J. and Kitty have two sons, Michael and Greg. Family comes first with them, but they find time to work diligently for AIS. Fortunately for AIS, C. J. is retired from Sun Oil Company, so he has more time for iris work. And that hard work is rewarded with the Distinguished Service Medal, a well deserved reward.

NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

REGION 7—JERRY GIFFORD

Jerry was born and in central Ohio. In the early seventies, he and his wife and daughter moved to middle Tennessee where he attended college. After graduation they decided to make Tennessee their home.

Irises did not enter the picture until 1981, when Jerry, on his way home from work, saw a roadside sign "Irises for Sale." It was spring and the irises were in bloom. Jerry bought his first four named varieties.

Three years later Jerry attended his first iris show and joined the Middle Tennessee Iris Society. He was hooked.

Now he is a life member of AIS and belongs to most of the iris sections, Jerry currently holds the office of president with Middle Tennessee Iris Society and has held offices in the Mid State Iris Association.

As an AIS garden judge, Jerry enjoys the shows as well as visiting other gardens far and near. He also enjoys promoting the iris with others interested in horticulture.

REGION 10—MRS. HUBERT (BETTY) RENA

The new RVP of Region 10 was born in Springfield, Louisiana, a small town 60 miles from New Orleans. Betty first became interested in Louisiana irises from her mother who had an iris pond, and she has fond memories of looking for wild irises to plant in the pond in the late 1940's.

After finishing high school Betty moved to New Orleans where she met and married her husband, Hubert Rena. They have two sons, Byron and Warren.

Betty joined the Society for Louisiana Irises and chose the iris as her specialty. She became an AIS Judge and attends the Louisiana Iris Show in Lafayette, Louisiana, every year. After becoming a Master Judge for National Council of State Garden Clubs, she began work with the garden clubs in the New Orleans area and gives programs on irises.

Her garden contains mostly Louisiana irises, species and older varieties introduced when the Society for Louisiana Irises was formed as well as the latest iris hybrids, some spurias and Japanese irises. She also grows antique roses and herbs.

REGION 12—CATHY HAGAN REED

Cathy was born in Toledo, Ohio, but raised in Janesville, Wisconsin, where her grandmother had a residential lot devoted solely to flowers—principally irises. When she was 12, the family moved to warmer climes—in Southern California. She was graduated with a B.A. in Spanish from UCLA and subsequently accepted a job in Mexico City where she resided for a period of time.

The hand lettered sign read: "13 irises—\$5.00" and Cathy's husband, Jim, couldn't pass up the bargain—besides, he knew how she loved flowers. That was the start of Cathy's irising. Shortly afterwards, she joined the Southern California Iris Society where her inability to say "no" landed her the job of editor of *Iris Notes* at her first meeting. The following year, having acquired some excellent named irises, she won her first blue ribbons on NEW MOON and SWEETWATER. Duncan Eader, SCIS president at the time, was Cathy's first mentor; he supplied her with different irises and good advice.

In 1978, Cathy was transferred by her company, Dames & Moore, to Salt Lake City, where, a stranger in a strange land, she happened on an iris show in a mall and promptly signed up with the Utah Iris Society. She hasn't been without a UIS job since. Her iris garden has expanded as well, and she currently grows around 400 irises, with nearly all species included. Her current specialty is growing Louisiana irises, and she has as extensive a patch of them as anyone in Utah at the present time. Cathy leaves hybridizing to her husband, but she is the chief waterer, weeder and feeder of the Reeds' iris garden.

REGION 13—MARKY D. SMITH

Marky was born in Northern California and raised in the vineyards of Napa Valley, where her family had founded Inglenook Winery in 1879. Her mother maintained a five-acre garden and grew the first "flamingo" pink irises, which Marky was assigned to weed. At the age of 15, she went to Salt Lake City to the garden of her great uncle, Melvin Naylor, a nationally known hybridizer during the 1940s and '50s. There, he taught her aunt how to pollinate irises with a camel's hair brush. Marky regrets she was inattentive.

Following a B.A. in Creative Writing from Stanford, Marky married James L. Smith and moved north several climate zones to Bellevue, Washington, where she studied landscape design, collected unusual rhododendrons, and discovered her own genes for gardening. Her first serious iris obsession occurred in 1960, among the spectacular rows of Japanese Irises at the Walter Marx Gardens near Portland. However, the \$10 required for a new Marx introduction did not fit the budget of a young family.

In 1968, Jim moved his electrical sign manufacturing to Yakima, Washington. During the next ten years, they coached their children's swim team; and Marky earned an M.A. in Poetry by commuting to the University of Washington. In 1978, they moved to their present house, which was surrounded by sagebrush and populated with rabbits. Marky began testing for rabbit-proof perennials; and planted bearded irises. The rabbits avoided these, so she planted more. Then, a friend gave her an iris book which included hybridizing instructions; and 34 years late, she remembered Uncle Melvin, made a few crosses (without the camel's hair brush), and was hooked.

Marky joined AIS in 1987 and became a Garden Judge as soon as permitted. Although she still has specific projects with TBs, her main work now is with Standard Dwarfs and Intermediates. Her first SDB, STARBABY, was released last year, and two of her seedlings, GEMSTAR and FIRESTORM, were Best Out-of-Region Seedling and First Runner-up, respectively, at the Median Spree in Oklahoma in 1993. Additional projects include extended bloom for Siberians and some exploratory work with daylilies.

Jim is semi-retired, though they are still involved in the family vineyards in California. He hunts and fishes, and they travel, hike, and ski. Marky is honored to be elected RVP, especially with the challenge of the AIS Convention in Portland this spring.

REGION 15—BILL RINEHART

Bill was born and raised pre-WWII in Anaheim, California. Rinehart's love of gardening was genetically induced by a green-thumb mother and a Kansas farm-boy father who had once been a high school ag teacher and socially engineered by a need to eat. The imposed skills resulted in summer employment at the Anaheim City Parks under the supervision and instruction of Rudolph Boysen, developer of the Boysenberry and horticulturist of deserved renown.

In the 50s a teacher's salary was necessarily supplemented by part-time and summer work in a San Fernando Valley nursery. This ultimately brought a position landscaping "spec" homes for an architect-contractor team.

Bill's college career at Occidental College was interrupted by four years in the Navy. He returned to Occidental and received a BA and an MA.

Thirty-four years as teacher, Director of Instruction and Principal in the Los Angeles Unified School District ended in early retirement, precipitated in part by knee surgery and principally by an intriguing career change.

Rinehart then became project coordinator for programs funded by the Office of California Juvenile Protection and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention emanating from the State and Federal Departments of Justice respectively. After two years of sixty-hour per week "part-time" service, he realized he wasn't retired, so he did.

Periodically, in the 47 year partnership with wife, Bobee, a child was born—3 in fact. Their marriages have gifted Bill and Bobee with six grandchildren.

The other courtship, the one with irises, began when his roundtrip to and from his first school assignment, took him twice-daily past the commercial garden of Laura Burbridge (MIDNIGHT WALTZ). With the first bloom in spring, the trip home often took much longer.

Bill's first love was pink, beginning with the blends preceding Hall's flamingo cultivars. Bobee contends that for forty-five years he has attempted to try every new pink introduced to commerce. Bill insists that is an exaggeration and proceeds to name a few that he missed.

Fortunately, his first catalog order from Walter Marx was for a promo of beardless irises. Among cultivars received were CAESAR'S BROTHER and WADI ZEM ZEM. These influenced him to grow, at one time or another, every class of hybrid iris.

Rinehart discovered the San Fernando Valley Iris Society selling rhizomes in a local park. That union of 20 years led him to active membership in a total of five local affiliates.

Always active in the SFVIS, the pace picked up perceptively when retirement destroyed his usual excuse. He has been SFVIS president for 3½ years, trek chair for the joint spring meeting 1990, guest iris chair, Judges Training Chair Region 15, and Ass't. RVP Region 15.

While he promises his best efforts as RVP, he also serves notice that he has adopted a new motto effective at the end of his term. It reads, "What part of no don't you understand?"

REGION 16—CATHERINE BOYKO

Cathy Boyko has been interested in irises since she first saw a stand of modern tall bearded irises in Waterford, Ontario, in 1980. She now runs a tiny nursery so that people nearby can enjoy them too. She is an accredited judge for The American Iris Society and the first vice president of the Canadian Iris Society.

Cathy is a 36-year-old high school teacher with a degree in Developmental and Physiological Botany from the University of Guelph. She currently supply teaches because it gives her more time to spend with her two children, Adam (9) and Julianne (6), and allows her to garden more extensively. Her husband Dennis is also a high school teacher and enjoys golf in the summer. This leaves Cathy a golf widow and a happy gardener! She enjoys all aspects of gardening, but living on 14 acres of hardwood forest restricts the number of irises that can be grown to some extent. She grows all kinds of irises and especially likes the beardless and species. She also collects narcissus, peonies, hemerocallis, heucheras, species geraniums, Japanese maples, hostas and aquilegias since the sunny areas are getting full! She has two mutts and likes purebred poultry. She currently has Speckled Sussex. In the winter Cathy pampers her Koi and makes stained glass items for herself and for custom orders. She looks forward to her term as RVP and looks forward to attending the convention in Portland.

REGION 19—JOSEPH JOHN GRINER

Joe Griner has been a teacher of Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry and has received many grants and summer institute awards over the 23 years of teaching. He has coached and officiated track and field and enjoys a wide variety of music and arts. He has attempted to coordinate his teaching and gardening practices by actively working towards the protection of natural resources and preservation of open spaces in his role as an Environmental Commissioner of the Township of Southampton. Joe and Margo Griner live on the northern edge of the Pinelands of New Jersey. The acre wooded lot provided more room for their three children and for gardening. The children have been reluctant gardeners. Joseph is in his final year at Trenton State and James is a freshman at Baylor University. Jennifer is a sophomore at Lenape High School.

Although Joe lived in Bordentown around the corner from Frank Carr for thirteen years, the Griner's moved to Southampton (half an hour south) before

Joe visited the iris hybridizer's small but bountiful garden. Frank started Joe with ten rhizomes. The next spring Joe had nine blooming plants and he was hooked. The late Frank Carr introduced Joe to the Garden State Iris Society where he has grown under the influence and support of many of the members. Their encouragement and kindness have developed a knowledge and interest far beyond the "blue flags" that Joe would mow down each summer as an adolescent. As a gardener Joe faces two challenges: 1) find irises that will grow well in the acid sands of the Pinelands without seriously impacting the environment 2) extend the bloom season beyond the typical two weeks of the tall bearded. To this end, Joe has experimented successfully in producing a mini-wetland in plastic in which Japanese, Louisiana and Species irises have thrived. The interest in flowers began as a youth and has been a family affair. Margo has joined in these challenges, and together, they have a very broad representation of irises. Joe and Margo are members in the Median, Japanese and Reblooming sections of AIS.

As a new RVP, Joe has the challenge of increasing active membership of New Jersey and Staten Island. The Executive Board has entered 1994 with an industrious calendar that will emphasize garden judging and garden tours to include neighboring regions.

REGION 24—JOSEPH CHRISTOPHER

Joseph (Joe) Christopher is a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and was educated in the public schools there. He worked for the railroad for forty-one and one-half years and was locomotive engineer at the time of his retirement in 1982.

It was his good fortune that Martha Pulley attended the same high school, and they were married in 1943. They lived in the Nashville area until 1968 when they moved to Murfreesboro because of his work.

Although they had grown irises for over a decade, it wasn't until after they moved to Murfreesboro that their interest in irises grew, and they joined The American Iris Society in 1972. In the following years, he served in many different offices on both the local and regional level. Their garden was one of the tour gardens for the 1979 Convention in Huntsville, Alabama.

They have one son, David. David and his wife have three beautiful daughters. After the death of Martha's mother, Joe and Martha decided to move to Cullman, Alabama, to be near David and his family.

When they moved to Alabama, they became members of Region 24 and joined the Cullman Iris and Daylily Society.

Joe had no intention of becoming so heavily involved, but here he is—the RVP. He hopes he can do a good job and see Region 24 grow.

JUDGES' ROSTER CORRECTION

In the listing of American Iris Society judges in the January, 1994 issue of the Bulletin, the following name was omitted:

AM Mrs. R. P. Van Valkenburgh in Region 24

NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS



Jerry Gifford



Mrs. Hubert Rena



Cathy Hagan Reed

NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS



Marky Smith



Bill Rinehart



Joe Griner



Joe Christopher

BEARDLESS GUEST IRISES IN THE '94 CONVENTION

Tom Abrego (Oregon)

Eighteen different hybridizers were kind enough to send their beardless seedlings and recent beardless introductions to be guested at the 1994 National Convention to be held in Portland, Oregon. These beardless guests (just over 100 different cultivars) are being grown in four of the nine convention gardens: Abrego, Aitken, Schreiner and Silverberg (the Abrego garden has *only* beardless guests). Most of the guests were sent in the summer of 1991, so they have had ample time to become well-established. In fact, due to our excellent growing conditions, most of these guests were very well-established by bloom time last spring, giving us an excellent preview of next spring's bloom. One thing we hope is not repeated in 1994 is last spring's weather. The spring of 1993 was characterized by record-setting rains and cold weather. This did provide us an opportunity to see how the guests performed under these conditions.

Siberian irises represent just about half of the beardless irises sent. Although most of the Siberian guests have thrived in our wet climate, some had botrytis problems related to our cold, wet weather last spring. The application of fungicides and the onset of drier weather alleviated this problem, but those irises that suffered will probably be noticeably smaller than those that didn't.

SHAKER'S PRAYER (Warner) grows like crazy. Its clumps are easily twice as large as the next most vigorous Siberian. And, it has floriferousness to match its vigor. The first bloom of OVER IN GLORYLAND (Hollingworth) opened right before our most violent storm (40+ mph winds, hail and over 2" of rain). Yet the next week that same bloom looked as fresh as it did when it first opened. It has amazing substance. DEVIL'S DREAM (Schafer-Sachs) drew a lot of attention because of the beautiful deep wine color of its well-formed flowers. LAKE KEUKA (Borglum) grew into large, beautifully formed clumps, displaying its compact blue bitone flowers in abundance. FROSTED CRANBERRY (Miller) offered excellent foliage, bronze colored bracts and a unique cranberry color. Sdlg# S87-10-1 (Schafer-Sachs) generated a lot of interest in its wildly formed styles. Its flower form is definitely different. STRAWBERRY SENSATION (Hollingworth) dazzled with its incredibly laced and fluted heavily substantanced flowers which bloomed for almost a month.

The four hybridizers who sent Spuria guests must be described as optimistic. If our season is early next year, then their creations will be seen in bloom during the convention tours. If not, conventioners will have the opportunity to see Spurias grow and late garden visitors will be able to see them bloom. The majority of the Spuria guests have done very well, although several had light to moderate leaf spot problems last spring. Several other varieties showed signs of mosaic virus, not uncommon in Spurias during cold, wet weather.

AMBER GLEAM (Jenkins) has bright, radiant yellow flowers and exhibited very vigorous disease-free growth. ALPHASPU (Jenkins) also grew healthy and well. Its large bright yellow flowers have an interesting form. SONORAN SENORITA (Wickenkamp) displayed the healthiest and most vibrant foliage of any of the Spurias. Its ruffled, well-formed flowers are bright yellow. Sdlg# 82-6C

(DeSantis) did not grow well in our garden but did extremely well in others. Its small dark blue-violet flowers have a thin form many find desirable.

Mary Dunn and Peter DeSantis each sent Louisiana irises as guests. We found this quite interesting, as many of us had never tried growing Louisianas before. Unfortunately, the Louisiana guests reacted quite poorly to our adverse weather last spring. As a group, the Louisianas were just overrun with leaf spot. INNER BEAUTY (Dunn) did have relatively clean foliage and its large deep plum flowers were quite attractive. COUPE DE VILLE (Dunn) also grew quite well, with yellow signals highlighting its rose petals. Sdlg# 86-8 (DeSantis) displayed great vigor but was really set back by leaf spot. Its rich velvety purple flowers were quite pretty, but bloomed in the foliage, perhaps because of weather-related stress.

Finally, Lorena Reid sent three of her recent Cal-Sibe introductions. These were not sent the first year, and they do seem to take more time to become established, so they were not yet fully established in the spring of 1993. PARTY PALEFACE (Reid) did give an indication of the beauty to follow with its deep velvety plum flowers. Monique Dumas-Quesnel sent almost two dozen of her new interspecific hybrids. Growing these guests has really been an experience, as these are definitely different from anything most of us have grown before. SUN CASCADE (Dumas-Quesnel) is a pseudacorus hybrid and did seem to generate a fair amount of discussion by garden visitors last spring. BELLE PROMESSE (Dumas-Quesnel) formed extraordinarily beautiful clumps with deep reddish violet flowers. Many of the Dumas-Quesnel guests were sent in 1992, so did not have a chance to become well-established by last spring. As a group, these interspecific hybrids are doing well and should be quite interesting next spring.

There will be an incredible display in our guest gardens next spring. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend and enjoy this beauty with us.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY (Four Issues)

One inch	\$ 37.50	Two-inch	\$ 50.00
Three-inch	\$ 62.50		

DISPLAY ADVERTISING (Single Issue)

One-inch	\$ 30.00	Two-thirds page	\$ 90.00
One-quarter page	\$ 40.00	Three-fourths page	\$100.00
One-third page	\$ 50.00	Full page	\$120.00
One-half page	\$ 70.00		

Full page, color	\$240.00 plus color separations
Cover ads	\$240.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:
Ms. Kay Nelson-Keppel, Advertising Editor
P.O. Box 18145 Salem, OR 97305 Tel. (503) 391-9241

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual	\$ 12.50	Dual Triennial	37.50
Single Triennial	30.00	Single Life	250.00
Dual Annual	15.50	Dual Life	300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin			3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin			4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual	\$15.00	Dual Annual	\$18.00
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Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

**PLANNING
TO MOVE ?**



**DON'T FORGET
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MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY**

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455

1994 Society for Japanese Irises Convention Summerville, South Carolina

The Summerville Iris Society will host the 1994 Convention of the Society for Japanese Irises June 2-4 in Summerville, South Carolina.

Registration fee until May 1 is \$50; between May 1 and May 16, it's \$60. May 16 is the deadline for registrations. Make check payable to SUMMERVILLE IRIS SOCIETY and mail to Peggy Beason, 1827 State Road, Summerville, SC 29488. Telephone 803 688-4414.

Headquarters is the Holiday Inn, 120 Holiday Inn Drive, Summerville, SC 29483-7399. The inn is located near the intersection of Routes I-26 and 17-A, (Exit 199A off I-26 to Route 17A South.) Holiday Inn Drive is the first street on the right. Telephone 803 875-3300. The toll free number for reservations is 800 238-8800. Cost per room with two double beds is \$46.00. The Holiday Inn DOES NOT offer courtesy airport/hotel limo service. Yellow Cab has quoted a \$16.00 fare (one to four passengers).

For those arriving BEFORE 6 p.m. on June 2, there will be a two-hour Charleston Harbor dinner cruise. The dinner cruise is courtesy of Summerville Iris Society. To minimize expenses to SIS, it is imperative that you tell us on your reservation slip if you plan to go on the cruise. SIS must pay for all "no shows."

Reservation packets will be available at the hotel from 4 to 6 p.m. on June 2. The desk will reopen from 6 to 8 a.m. on June 3. The WELCOME BREAKFAST is scheduled from 8 to 9:15 a.m. on June 3.

A two-hour judges' training course, directed by Pat Brooks, will begin at 9:30 a.m. on June 3. Buses will leave at 11:45 a.m. Lunch will be served in St. Stephens, South Carolina. Next is a visit to the spacious garden of B. C. and Maggie Johnson, then to the garden of Peggy Beason. Dinner is on your own and the evening activities will begin at 7:30 p.m. when Ruth Wilder presents a slide/question/answer session.

On Saturday morning, breakfast is on your own. Three gardens will be toured—those of Pat Brooks, Virginia Burton, and Lavina Goldsberry. There will be an iris show at Azalea Park in Summerville. You will be able to visit the Japanese iris plantings here and see the Adolph Vogt memorial tree. There will be a luncheon, banquet, and an auction on Saturday. There will be door prizes.

Several restaurants are near the convention headquarters, and there is also a medium-sized shopping center. For those who come early or stay late, the area offers many interesting historical places.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION Sacramento, California 1996

REQUEST FOR CONVENTION GUEST BEARDED IRISES

The Sacramento and Santa Rosa Iris Societies and Region 14 of The American Iris Society will host The American Iris Society Convention in 1996. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of irises for display at this convention. These guests should be recent introductions or seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.

When sending guest irises, please observe the following guidelines:

1. A maximum of three rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. The guest irises will be accepted after July 11, 1994 and until September 15, 1994.
3. The following information should accompany each plant:
 - a. Hybridizer's name and address.
 - b. Name or number of the variety of seedling.
 - c. Type of iris.
 - d. Height and color.
 - e. Year of introduction, if introduced.
4. All guests should be shipped to:
Walt Dean
2334 Whitter Place
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 422-9119
5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than December 30, 1995, in order that the name can be included in the convention booklet.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors.
7. In April of 1996, instructions as to the disposition of the guest irises will be requested of each contributor. Failure to reply by June 15, 1996, will be deemed permission to destroy all stock. Official guest irises which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid except to foreign addresses. All necessary permits for foreign shipment will be the responsibility of the hybridizer.
8. The Convention Committee and owners of display gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
9. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control.
10. Only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the Convention booklet.

Abe Feuerstein
Convention Chairman

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1994

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1991 through 1994 introductions—mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM winners—1990 through 1993.

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1993 AIS Symposium.

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless—arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1990 OMAHA CONVENTION

1991 WASHINGTON D. C. CONVENTION

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Chairman

Slides Committee

3455 Vallejo Ct.

Colorado Springs, Co 80918

Phone: (719) 598-2024

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Marilyn Holloway, 673 Acacia Ave., Sacramento, CA 95815. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS SALES ITEMS

<i>THE WORLD OF IRISES</i>	\$17.50
Edited by Warburton & Hamblen; 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. 494 pages of text; 32 pages full color. Published in 1978 and the most authoritative book on all phases of irises, scientific and popular, 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover.	
<i>HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS</i>	complete ... \$6.00
	pages only ... \$4.00
<i>IRIS SHOW POSTERS</i>	Packet of 6, \$10.00
Promote your show with these full-color posters 11" x 16".	
<i>AIS LAPEL PINS</i>	\$5.00
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin ½" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.	
<i>1991 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK</i> . A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses.	\$10.00
<i>1939 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1949 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1959 CHECK LIST</i>	\$10.00
Reprint. Soft cover.	
<i>1969 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$17.00
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1960-69.	
<i>1979 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$17.00
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970-79.	
<i>1989 IRIS CHECK LIST</i>	\$15.00
Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980-89.	
<i>REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—</i>	
1990	\$4.00
1991	\$5.00
1992	\$5.00
1993	\$5.00
<i>BULLETINS: Back issues, if available</i>	\$3.00
<i>BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS</i>	\$2.50
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.	
<i>AIS SEALS</i>	Pack—\$2.50; 5 Packs—\$10.00
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on a silver background. (50 per pack)	
<i>RHS COLOUR CHARTS</i>	\$45.00
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.	
<i>1994 AIS CALENDAR</i>	\$5.00—10 for \$30.00
<i>INVITATION TO JOIN BROCHURES</i>	in quantities, 8¢ each.
<i>BASIC IRIS CULTURE</i>	\$1.25, 25 for \$15.00

**Prices include postage and handling.
Make checks payable to The American Iris Society**

Send order to Charles J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132-1808

Phone (918) 445-2222

1993 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST RESULTS

Melody Wilhoit (Illinois)

The 1993 Membership Contest winner for individual members is Kathy Guest of East Aurora, NY. She racked up 485 points. Coming in second was Ginny Spina of Jamesville, NY with 215 points. Both Kathy and Ginny are from Region 2. Jim McWhirter of Region 14 came in third with 145 points.

A total of 24 members participated in the individual members' contest with Region 4 having the most members entered (8). Region 5 had 5 members who participated. Receiving special commendation certificates are:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Points</i>
Kathy Guest	2	485
Ginny Spina	2	215
James McWhirter	14	145
Kathleen Colburn	2	130
Claire Honkanen	5	100
Lottie Lough	7	70
Koen Engelen	Overseas (Belgium)	70
Patricia Brooks	5	50
Betty Smith	5	50
E. C. Newburn	21	50
Norma Green	4	35

For the third time in four years the Francis Scott Key Iris Society won the affiliate membership contest. Coming in second was the Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society with 185 points. The Blue Ridge Iris Society racked up 140 points for third place. All of these societies are from Region 4. Rich Randall is Region 4's membership contest chairman, and he does a super job! Seven (7) affiliates from Region 4 participated in the membership contest with all but one winning a certificate. Societies winning special certificates are:

<i>Affiliate</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Points</i>
Francis Scott Key Soc.	4	215
Chesapeake & Potomac Soc.	4	185
Blue Ridge Iris Society	4	140
Lincoln Iris Society	21	100
Prairie Iris Society	9	50
Tidewater Iris Society	4	45
Charlotte Iris Society	4	40
Utah Iris Society	12	40
Carolina Iris Society	4	30

Congratulations to all of the winners, and thank you for sending in all of the entries. New members help build our society. Keep up all the good work!

Please remember not to send the membership contest entries to our membership secretary, Marilyn Harlow, but send them to our 1994 Membership Contest Chairman *James P. McWhirter, 451 N. Lillian, Stockton, CA 95215.*

1994 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

The 1994 Membership Contest follows the same rules as those used in 1993. Three separate and distinct awards will be presented at the 1995 Convention—one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to the individual youth, adult and affiliate in each region who obtains the largest number of points. A minimum of 30 points is necessary to qualify for any award. Names of the award and certificate winners will be published in the future.

Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate as individuals or as a group.

Point Scale

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing dual membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual membership
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership, providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year:

- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 15 points for converting from single annual to dual triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial
- 100 points for each single life membership
- 150 points for each dual life membership

Rules

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary and may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.

2. The RVP or Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region and the AIS Contest Chairman (James P. McWhirter, 451 N. Lillian, Stockton, CA 95215) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days.

3. Each new membership should be reported on separate 3 × 5 cards. The following information is needed: the name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership—annual, triennial, or life; the name, address, and region of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points.

4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.

5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after December 10, 1994 cannot be counted for the 1994 contest but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 1995 contest.

GROWING BEARDED IRISES

Phillip Williams (Tennessee)

My approach to growing bearded irises is designed for simplicity and efficiency. To collect and grow the large numbers of varieties I prefer and to fit this overgrown hobby into a much overextended time schedule, all of my fertilization and soil conditioning is accomplished by early summer.

The approach of spring (who can resist 70 degree temperatures in February and March?) makes one itch to start weeding and preparing for spring bloom. But . . . beware, eager beavers! In Tennessee winter often is just warming up for the big chill (or perhaps, *KILL*)!!!! Therefore, the first warning to the wise is to sit tight and leave those winter weeds in place, for they will provide surprisingly good protection from those late freezes. Better that you brush off the lawn chairs in the garage and enjoy preparing new garden markers while enjoying the warmth of that deceptive sunshine.

There will be many warmups such as these and by early April your finished markers can be put into place with little danger of further heaving out of the ground. This is also an excellent time to pull out those planting charts, making sure that your plots are properly aligned and that all is well.

Since I do NOT use pre-emergent herbicides, a rainy spring can make for rampant weed growth. My first weeding is usually 6-12" around each plant. When planting in rows, a similar band of weeding might be appropriate. I have learned to practice this ritual as a precaution against a sudden warmup and emergence of stalks from the rhizomes. If stalks are already on the way up, no one can properly weed without destroying these precious idols of adoration. A second round of weeding can finish off those vegetative demons away from the foliage and stalks. As this second attack ensues, one can easily pinch away newly emerging weeds that threaten to shadow the rhizomes and bloom stalks.

As the days warm, it is imperative that one watches for plants that have settled too deeply since summer planting or established clumps that have soil washed against or over the rhizomes. It is these plants, smothered by soil particles, that are most likely to suffer from soft rot and/or crown rot. As with most living things, one need only to observe bearded irises in their native roadside habitat to ascertain that they must have air and sunshine all about!!

If erosion is obvious, scrape that soil away immediately. If the problem affects a large area (even an entire bed), better find a sturdy timber or log and place along the bed's edges to stop the nemesis of soil-covered rhizomes. Otherwise, prepare for the Biblical mandate to "rejoice" at the death of your irises. (Usually, the result of such gardening error(s) makes one curse, cry and become an iris grouch.) If the problem is discovered after the plant is well developed and the stalks are emerging, a soft rush of water from a garden hose is the perfect *temporary* solution—until a spring downpour redeposits the silt over and around your plants.

The most important preparation for spring is preparing to ENJOY the bloom. Far too many irisarians have added an arsenal of organic materials and chemical fertilizers to their plantings, only to shriek at the first sign of disaster! Sickly, underfed plants are not a pretty sight, but common sense should prevail in growing hardy perennials.

Do schedule some time for visiting other area iris gardens during your bloom season, if only for a couple of days. If you'd like to participate in an iris show, circle the date in late winter and plan months ahead to pack and drive to this event. I can assure you that one participation in an iris show will heighten your appreciation for irises in the garden!

Make notes during bloom and do not be afraid to bid farewell to varieties that are not performing or whose performance did not please you. You are under no obligation to plant and pamper varieties that do not earn their keep. Such folly will spoil lots of fun that growing irises can bring.

As summer approaches, find at least one person you know who would enjoy growing a few iris varieties and surprise them with a phone call offering them some of your lovelies. After all, what good is accomplished by hoarding all this back-breaking, hand-blistering, sweat-pouring pleasure to ourselves?

MEDIAN FIX IN '96

The Greater Portland Iris Society will host a national median convention immediately following the national convention in California in April, 1996. We invite hybridizers to send guest irises from all median classes (including aril-medians). These should be shipped to:

Terry Aitken, Guest Iris Chair
608 NW 119th Street
Vancouver, WA 98685

Please observe the following guidelines:

1. Guest irises will be accepted only from August 1 - September 15, 1994.
2. Guest irises should be recent introductions and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.
3. A maximum number of 25 introductions and/or seedlings per hybridizer will be accepted. Hybridizers may send up to 3 plants per variety, for a total maximum number of 75 plants.
4. With each plant to be gusted, please include the following information:
Hybridizer's name, variety name or seedling number, classification (type) of iris, height & color, year of introduction, if applicable. Also a master packing list of guests sent, with return address for acknowledgement.
5. AIS Convention policy regarding guest iris Code of Ethics will be adhered to. No guest plant will be traded, sold or hybridized.

American Iris Society Conventions

1995	York, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	
1997	Detroit, MI	
1998	Denver, CO	
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	

THOSE VERSATILE MDBs

Dorothy and Tony Willott (Ohio)

Seventeen species are listed as Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) irises in *The World of Irises* (AIS 1978). These conform to the class standards of plants with bloomstalks up to 8 inches high, having stems usually unbranched, with one or two terminal buds, flowers 2-3 inches across, leaves rarely exceeding the flowers, sometimes sickle-shaped, usually the earliest bearded irises to bloom. A number of these species have rarely been seen and seldom cultivated, such as *I. griffithii*, *I. alexeenkoi*, *I. scariosa* and *I. taurica*. We don't even have chromosome counts for the first two and some of the listed species may just be forms of *I. pumila*. *I. astrachanica*, *I. barthii* and *I. binata* have intermediate chromosome counts which indicate they may have been natural hybrids between neighboring species.

The most famous natural hybrid is ATROVIOLACEA, the "Cemetery Iris," listed by Todaro in 1856. It was carried across the United States by pioneers and planted on graves of those who failed to complete the journey. Also considered to be *pumila*-*chamaeiris* hybrids are AZUREA and COERULEA, discovered in the wild and cultivated in gardens since 1880.

The great majority of dwarf irises produced and grown from 1800 through the 1940s were of what came to be known as the "chamaeiris complex," although derived mostly from *I. olbiensis* and *I. italica*, related but larger and lustier species than *I. chamaeiris* itself. This group commonly bloomed at from 8 to 10 inches in height and ranged in color from off-white to deep purple, with shades of blue, cream, yellow, brown and red-violet. Colors tended to be somewhat muddy and flower form droopy and narrow. Chamaeiris dwarfs were grown and bred extensively during the early 1900s by Goos and Koenemann in Germany, Caparne in Britain and Burchfield in the United States. In the 1930s, the Sass brothers started working toward improvements, introducing such varieties as ROSE MIST (31), LITTLE JEWEL (30) and SOUND MONEY (35), a clear yellow that won the first Caparne Award in 1950. Sass introductions peaked in the pre-World War II years followed by Hill, Hodson, Marx and Welch in the 1940s and early 1950s. The better chamaeiris varieties provide a generous burst of color in the foreground of the border along with species tulips and other spring bulbs. Watch out for inferior chamaeiris varieties still being imported from Europe for the nursery trade and are often erroneously labeled as *I. pumila*.

In the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, chamaeiris dwarfs were crossed with the tiny yellow aril dwarfs known as *I. arenaria*, *I. flavissima* and *I. bloudowii*. These hybrids were almost completely sterile, but provided some attractive MDBs that are still popular today. These varieties which displayed flaring form in creams, yellows, roses, dark reds and brown, included Paul Cook's KEEPSAKE (36), TAMPA (36) and PROMISE (52); Walter Welch's CUP AND SAUCER (51) and BRICKY (56); Ed Zickler's BUTTERBALL (54) and BUSTER BROWN (54); and Hill's CREAM TART (43) and TINY TREASURE (43). The *arenaria*/*flavissima*/*bloudowii* species are difficult to maintain in the garden, however the hybrids are especially suited for planting in rock gardens, and they make charming clumps at the front of the border. Another noteworthy cross involving *I. arenaria* is Jay

Ackerman's *I. pumila* X *I. arenaria* seed pod which produced two varieties, PUMAR ALPHA and PUMAR BETA, introduced in 1958. Later, Emma Hobbs crossed *I. arenaria* onto the aril species *I. korolkowii* to obtain her 1971 introduction, KOVIAR. These hybrids, unfortunately, are not only sterile, but difficult to grow.

Another diploid species, *I. mellita*, has also been used in crosses with other dwarfs, but most of these are infertile. This tiny species comes in shades of dull yellow to brown-violet blends and has sickle-shaped foliage. In the rubromarginata form, the leaves have a narrow red-violet edge. The pure species requires a well-drained position in a rock garden or scree. Most of its hybrids grow well in rock gardens or border. Species in the related Balkan complex—*reichenbachii*, *balkana* and *bosniaca*—have not been used much in MDBs, but have been used in median breeding. The Romanian species—*I. barthii*—does not often appear in pedigrees, but the lovely brown with violet-blue beards, LAURIN (Hanselmayer 58), is listed as a seedling of *I. barthii*, *I. attica* and *I. pseudopumila* (16 chromosomes) and *I. furcata* and *I. timofejewii* (24 chromosomes) have rarely been crossed with other species because they are diploids and most seedlings would be highly infertile.

The real hero in the miniature dwarf bearded iris class is *I. pumila*, which is seldom more than 6 inches tall with flowers about 2 inches across. *I. pumila* is thought to have originated as a double hybrid of *I. attica* and *I. pseudopumila* in the eastern Adriatic and expanded north, then east and west. It established itself from Czechoslovakia and Austria across the Balkans and into Russia to the Ural Mountains. They are small and shallow-rooted plants, requiring some care to maintain. They demand a long winter dormancy, are easily smothered by neighboring plants, and are easily uprooted by winter heaving. To keep individual clones, it is necessary to transplant them often. Where their requirements can be met, they are well worth the effort.

I. pumila was brought to England in the 19th century by soldiers returning from the Crimea, but it was never widely distributed there and was almost unobtainable in America until the 1940s when it became available through the persistence of Robert Schreiner and Paul Cook. Schreiner imported seed from three sources—from the Crimea, from the University of Cluj in Romania and from Vienna. The variety NANA was named from the Crimean seed, and CARPATHIA and SULINA from the Romanian seed. None were named from the Austrian seed, but selections sent to Paul Cook and selectively bred by him resulted in varieties nearer than any previous offerings to real blue. The Schreiner selections have proven to be fine breeders. Another much-used *pumila* is CRETICA, supposedly collected on the island of Crete.

The ultimate worth of *I. pumila*, however, came with the discovery that as a tetraploid it crossed readily with the less cold-tolerant tall bearded (TB) irises. The resultant hardy hybrids were initially dubbed “lilliputs” by Geddes Douglas who, along with Paul Cook, first made these crosses. Eventually, they were officially designated “Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)” irises. When SDBs are crossed again with TBs, their progeny fall into the Intermediate Bearded (IB) class. When SDBs are crossed again with *I. pumila*, the resulting seedlings usually fall in the definition of the MDB class. Most of the three-quarter *pumila* hybrids are still fertile and they are subjects of breeding programs by a number of hybridizers. In

north-central Europe and northern parts of the United States these MDB hybrids grow well, are very hardy and bloom prolifically. Individual varieties, of course, vary in size and daintiness. The daintier ones are very nice plants for the top of a retaining wall, in a rock garden or at the front of a perennial border. Sturdier varieties are also good additions to perennial borders, as edgings for beds of larger irises or lining a walk or driveway. MDBs can also be effective at the base of a mailbox or lamp post.

With the growing interest in dwarf irises, Walter Welch became busy organizing the Dwarf Iris Society, which published its first Portfolio in 1950, and establishing the Central Test Garden in Middlebury, Indiana. Annual meetings in Middlebury drew many prominent irisarians such as Paul Cook, Dr. L. F. Randolph and Orville Fay. Three other test gardens were established. These were in Seattle, Washington; Elmira, New York; and Omaha, Nebraska. Dozens of hybridizers joined in the quest for better and better MDBs during the period from the 1950s to the present. These efforts have brought much improved flower form and a dazzling array of colors. Self colors include crystal-pure whites, sky blues, yellows from cream to deep gold, rose-pinks and lilacs, deepest violets and wine-reds, and various shades of green and brown. Added to these are the spot patterns inherited from *I. pumila* that can be small spots or halos around the beards or large spots that nearly cover the falls. Beards come in white, yellow, blue, violet or blends of these colors.

From 1950 through 1982, AIS judges voted for their favorite MDB eligible for the Caparne Award, named for English hybridizer, W. J. Caparne, whose notable introductions included BOUQUET, BRIDE and SAPPHIRE. In 1983 three varieties received the Award of Merit, instead. Since 1984, the top award for MDBs has been the Caparne-Welch Medal. Of the 33 Caparne Awards given, eight went to Walter Welch and three each to Alta Brown, Melba Hamblen and Ben Hager. Ten Caparne-Welch Medals have been awarded with two each going to Ben Hager (GIZMO and DITTO), Tony and Dorothy Willott (ALPINE LAKE and PUSSYTOES), and Terry Aitken (CHUBBY CHERUB and SPARKY). The Medals were also awarded to David Sindt for ZIPPER and Carl Boswell for PUPPET BABY.

Many of the early *pumila* hybrids are still being grown. Some of these are:

LITTLE MOHEE (Vivian Grapes 54) 5 in. Brown bitone

GRANDMA'S HAT (Leona Mahood 57) 6½ in. Lavender with large red-violet spot

ORCHID FLAIR (Leona Mahood 61) 8 in. Rosy orchid with white beards

BLUE FROST (Helen Doriot 56) 5-6 in. Pale blue self, Caparne Award 59

ANGEL EYES (Bennett Jones 59) 5-6 in. White with blue spot on falls, Caparne Award 61

KNICK KNACK (Wilma Greenlee 61) 5 in. White with blue-violet stitching

ALREADY (Bee Warburton 62) 6 in. Purplish-red self

BEE WINGS (Alta Brown 60) 7 in. Yellow with small brown-maroon spots, Caparne Award 63

APRIL MORN (Walter Welch 52) 4 in. Flax-blue self, Caparne Award 54

SPARKLING EYES (Welch 54) 7 in. White with large blue-violet spots, Caparne Award 56

- CHERRY SPOT (Welch 56) 6½ in. White with large dark cherry spots, Caparne Award 60
- FASHION LADY (Welch 58) 8 in. Medium yellow self, orange beards, Caparne Award 64
- ATOMIC BLUE (Welch 61) 4 in. Sky blue self, white beards, Caparne Award 65
- LEMON PUFF (Bonnie Dunbar 69) 7 in. Lemon stds; white falls with lemon hafts. Caparne Award 75
- BLUE BERET (Earl Roberts 67) 6 in. Medium blue stds.; purple falls, Caparne Awd. 71
- PATSY JO (Lucille Kavan 67) 9 in. Violet with darker spot on falls
- SUN SPARKLE (David Sindt 68) 4 in. Bright full yellow self, Caparne Award 72
- NUGGETS (Sindt 76) 6-7 in. Orange-yellow self, Caparne Award 80
- KISSIMEE (Frank Williams 73) 5 in. Full red-violet self, blue beards
- LITTLE MAY DANCER (Harry Hite 76) 8 in. White stds.; indigo blue falls
- APRIL BALLET (Cleo Palmer 73) 7 in. Ruffled light blue with violet spots
- BRASS BUTTON (Harley Briscoe 78) 6 in. Brassy yellow blend
- BUTTONS (Tony & Dorothy Willott 75) 4½ in. Deep violet self, pale violet beards

Few of these visionary hybridizers are still alive, but their heritage has passed on to new breeders. Ben Hager of Melrose Gardens in Stockton, California, has worked for many years to develop MDBs that bloom well in warmer climates without long winter dormancy. Some of the recent ones are: CEREMONY (86) 4 in. yellow self; TINY CHERUB (88) 6 in. pastel peach pink; and MACUMBA (88) 5-7 in. wine red. In Indiana, Lynda Miller has been working with tiny pumila or near-pumila MDBs and has introduced a number of these such as PITTANCE (87) 4 in. violet-purple with deep red-violet spots; BITE SIZE (88) 4½ in. violet with dark blue spots; BUZZ BEE (82) 4½ in. light yellow with red-brown spots; MITTENS (87) 4 in. cream stds. falls blend of green and brown; and PEEPERS (91) 4 in. white with dark blue spots. Jim and Lucy Fry also introduced some very small MDBs including MINI MINX (87) 3 in. yellow with heart-shaped red spots; EARLY BABY (87) 4 in. violet stds., dark violet falls; WILD BABY (91) 5 in. smoky gold stds., chocolate brown falls; and TEENSY VIOLET (91) 1½ in. full violet stds., black falls edged violet. On the larger end of the MDB range is BASHFUL BUNNY (Lynn Bausch 84) 8 in. white with red-violet stitching. The "Maya" series from Audrey Machulak have some interesting colors. MAYA MARTYR (82) 7 in. is a cream and deep purple bicolor; MAYA MARVEL (82) has pale lavender stds., deeper smoky lavender falls; and MAYA MIST (84) 7 in. has pale yellow stds. and blue-grey falls. Although working more with SDBs, Paul Black has come up with some very nice MDBs. Two of these are SPOT OF TEA (89) 7 in. buff with red-brown spot on the falls; and CINNAMON APPLES (90) 5 in. golden tan stds., red brown falls.

Some recent Willott MDBs which possess wider, more horizontal, ruffled falls are the colorful BUCKEYE BABY (86) 6 in. medium yellow with deep red-brown spots on the falls; DAISY FRESH (88) 7½ in. white with yellow spots around pale blue beards; ELFIN MAGIC (90) 7 in. pale blue with yellow-green spot on falls, serrated edges; and PIXIE FLIRT (89) 7½ in. ruffled white, stitched red-violet.

For several years, our efforts have been in crossing pumilas with each other, with other MDBs and with the daintier SDBs. A white pumila seedling that we have used extensively is 79-13: (((White Mite x self) x (pumila Alba x Hanselmayer)) X Buttons). Crossing 79-13 back to BUTTONS (Willott 75) resulted in APRIL ICE (95) 4 in. cool white with a trace of turquoise halo; BABY CRYSTAL (95) 6 in. white with aqua flush below white beards; and seedling 91-18 (95) 5 in. full purple self with deeper spots, lavender beards. DAISY FRESH by 79-13 produced TINY TIARA (94) 5 in. profusely blooming, lightly ruffled, icy white self. Small SDB, PASTEL DELIGHT (Willott 86), crossed with 79-13 resulted in APRIL BLIZZARD (94) 4½ in. white self with green tinted hafts. We hope that these can be used to yield well-formed pink MDBs.

Crosses with 79-13 have also been made by PITTANCE, BUTTONS and DARING EYES. The 79-13 progeny should increase the availability of pumilas for hybridizers, as well as be attractive additions to the MDB class. Additionally, BUTTONS has been crossed with GOLD CANARY, WHAT NOT, WEE TURQUE, SECRET PRINCE, JEWEL BABY, POET LAUREATE and PANSY HEART. These crosses have produced some interesting seedlings that can provide a wealth of material to work with.

Miniature Dwarf Bearded irises are the forerunners of things to come. They are the first bearded irises to spring into bloom and extend the bloom season by 30 to 45 days. While the Tall Bearded are just starting to grow, the MDBs are dazzling clumps of color. What a delightful way to end a long, cold winter. Whether your interest is in hybridizing or growing irises and whether you prefer rows, beds, mixed borders or rock gardens, there are Miniature Dwarf Bearded irises for you. If you're not already growing them, why not try a few?

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

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**GIFT FOR COLOR IN THE
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IRIS POSTMARK AVAILABLE

Jerry Cathey (Oklahoma)

The United States Postal Service will issue an iris postmark in Ponca City, Oklahoma for April 29, 1994. If you have been keeping a collection, this will be the sixth iris postmark for Ponca City, Oklahoma, with the first one having been issued in 1989. For those wanting this year's postmark, put a self-addressed stamped envelope, or postcard, inside a slightly larger envelope addressed to:

POSTMASTER
IRIS FESTIVAL STATION
402 E. GRAND AVE.
PONCA CITY, OK 74601-9998

The postal service can accept mail-in requests for special postmarks for up to 30 days past the issuance date, however, the postage stamp used by the customer (U.S.A.) must have gone on sale prior to the date of the postmark.





YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris (Missouri)

In our area we have two universities which play a basketball game each year for "bragging rights." They even award a trophy by the same name. This brings to mind all of the reasons to claim bragging rights for our AIS youth members.

We had youth members who attended the AIS Convention in Ft. Worth this past year and others who attended or assisted with at least two AIS Section Meetings—the Median Spree in Oklahoma City and the Siberian Convention in Michigan. Good for you!

Each year AIS youths are nominated for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. For each one, numerous iris-related talents and achievements are pointed out as well as many fine character traits. While not everyone can win the trophy, all are truly winners. And we are proud of each one. What an honor to be nominated!

Many of our youths write essays each year for the Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest. Each one is interesting and unique. Others write articles for the youth newsletter, *The Iris Fan*. It is refreshing that sometimes unsolicited articles are received.

Participation in the Youth Coloring Contest was good and the winners were sent free irises. Thank you notes were received, even from the very young. Miss Manners would be proud. So are we.

Most iris shows include youth sections where our young people win many ribbons, medals and trophies. In at least three cases this past year, the Queen of Show was awarded to a youth. The general public is always impressed with our youth displays, whether in the horticulture, design or educational sections. Many youths work at the sales table or help answer questions at the information booth. Some adults have joined the local AIS affiliate clubs because they were impressed with the enthusiasm of a youth member. And don't those strong, youthful backs come in handy when it's time to set up or tear down an iris show? Thank you, youth members!

AIS youths have a wide range of interests. Some enjoy iris photography while others create iris line drawings. Some are computer whizzes and print out great looking articles while others are into science and have begun to hybridize. Many youths seek information on exact iris culture for their geographical area because they strive to have the greatest looking iris garden around. Others love flower

arranging. One youth member likes to dance and plans to add an iris bed full of irises with dance-related names. How creative.

You can bet that our youth members keep an iris "want list," and we can brag about the lively bidding we have seen at iris auctions. While some parents contribute the bidding funds, it is often the youth's own money being bid. Bravo!

Many AIS youths correspond with each other through the Pen Pals Program. These young people are able to share iris news and information with someone in their own or another region. While a ten-year-old from West Virginia may not be able to travel to California, and vice versa, he or she is able to correspond with another AIS youth there and exchange the very "flavor" of the local areas. Not bad for a 29¢ stamp.

AIS youths are eligible to enter the judges' training program, and upon completion, become accredited judges. A few youths are now judges. Others are in the process. This is definitely something to brag about.

Several youths have served on committees for their local affiliate, and at least one is a club officer. A few youths have held the position of Regional Youth Chairman. This is commendable. Thank you!

There are dozens of other reasons to brag on our youth members. The positive attitudes they possess, the kindness they show to others, the inquisitive minds, the joy of achievement, the LOVE OF THE IRIS!!

Do we claim bragging rights for our AIS youths? You bet!

JAPANESE IRIS TERMINOLOGY AND SOME CULTIVARS THAT HAVE THESE CHARACTERISTICS

John Wood (North Carolina)

At the spring meeting of the Summerville Iris Society in Summerville, South Carolina, Virginia Burton and I gave a two-hour judges' training session on terms to help identify and describe Japanese iris blooms. The editor of *Southern Iris*, our Region Five news publication used this in the Autumn, 1993 edition. This article uses those terms and gives some examples of Japanese iris blooms that fit into these categories.

It would have been easier had this occurred during bloom season but with mental impressions, pictures, etc., we have attempted to fulfill our assignment.

SANDED: The falls, and quite often, the standards in single flowers are covered with extremely small darker dots and very short broken lines against a lighter background of rather soft colors, giving the impression of scattered sand. On flowers with 6 falls, sanding tends to be on the outer perimeter and sometimes on the style arms. **EXAMPLES:** ROSE ADAGIO, MIST FALLS, CENTER OF ATTENTION, MIST O MORN and IAPETUS.

WASHED: An overlay of one or more different colors or shades of color on top of another. More uniform than splashed or mottled. Looks as if brush marks have been blended. **EXAMPLES:** CREPE PAPER and YUHI.

BRUSHED: Basically, this is similar to the sanded pattern. These are minute dots

and the appearance is that of brushing or wash of somewhat darker color over a lighter one. EXAMPLE: YUKI CHIDORI.

SPLASHED: An irregular spotting pattern of shades of one color or combination of several colors spotted over another. EXAMPLES: TAGE SODE, GLITTER AND GLAMOUR, DAPPLED DRAGON, GEISHA MISCHIEF, ACK-COUNTABLE and HIDDENISHIKI.

STIPPLED: A series of small dots or flecks of one color or shade over another. EXAMPLES: ROSE ADAGIO and CONFETTI SHOWER.

DUSTED: A very fine pattern of extremely small dots of one color over another. Not as coarse as sanded. EXAMPLE: PRAIRIE SWEETBRIAR.

MOTTLED: A more or less spotting and or blotching of different colors or shades of colors, as if stained. EXAMPLES: UMI BOTARU and HALL OF MARBLE.

FRECKLED: Very pronounced dots and or flecks larger than dusted or stippled. EXAMPLES: FRECKLED GEISHA and WILDERNESS AMOUR.

MOSAIC: Basically, it is an overlay of one shade of a single color over another, either dark over light or light over dark. Pattern is usually rather coarse, somewhat resembling stippled to sanded. On occasion, there are veins or radiating lines that tend to divide the falls into segments. EXAMPLE: SKY AND MIST.

FLECKING: An irregular pattern of spots or streaks over a limited area. EXAMPLES: NIGHT BLIZZARD and SPRINGTIME SHOWERS.

VEINED: Very fine dark lines against the white or pale background of the falls. EXAMPLES: MAI-OGI and PRAIRIE NOBLE.

LINED: White lines, often referred to as "rays," follow the veins against dark falls. The lines, which are wider than the veins, sometimes are branched, especially at the outer ends. They are best when sharply outlined and usually start at white areas surrounding the signals. EXAMPLES: ENCHANTMENT, TAGA SODE and DAZZLING DEBUTANTE.

EDGED: A narrow dark edging surrounding light falls or standards, or a very light edging surrounding dark falls or standards. The edging may be just a fine line or as much as 1/8 of an inch in width. EXAMPLES: CRYSTAL HALO, FRILLED ENCHANTMENT, PEACOCK STRUT and MIST FALLS.

RIMMED: Wide dark rims often with irregular margins, surrounding white or very light central areas. In some flowers this pattern is reversed with the rim lighter than the central area. EXAMPLES: KALAMAZOO and DRAMATIC MOMENT.

SELF: Flowers of a single color except for the signals. EXAMPLES: STAR AT MIDNIGHT, YOHO and WINE RUFFLES.

BI-TONE: Flowers of a single color, except for the signals, having standards or styles of lighter or darker tone than the falls. EXAMPLES: PEACOCK STRUT and PRAIRIE TWILIGHT.

BI-COLOR: Most Japanese irises show two colors; the basic one and the yellow or green of the signals. In some red-purples, there are blue tones around the signal. The term "Bi-Color" is commonly used only for flowers with striking contrast between white and dark color. Veined, lined, edged and rimmed flowers also show two contrasting colors, but they are categorized terms of their pattern. EXAMPLE: PRAIRIE GLORY.

SIGNAL: At the base of each fall in single flowers, and all six falls in double flowers, is the signal. Color of signal ranges from light yellow to very rich yellow even approaching orange. Signals of yellow tinged with green are not uncommon, and there are some that are a distinct green. I have not listed examples since virtually all Japanese irises have signals.

HALO: A narrow band of color, surrounding the signal, that sharply contrasts with that of the falls. **EXAMPLES:** ORIENTAL EYES, WINGED SPRITE and GEISHA MISCHIEF.

GROWING CALIFORNICAE FROM SEED

Adele Lawyer (California)

Planting the Pacific Coast native iris from seed is the most reliable method of assuring the highest level of survival. These species are vigorous when established, but plants are difficult to transplant, especially when the interval between digging and planting is less than immediate. Although transplanting is the only option possible when you wish to grow a named variety, planting seed from mixed garden hybrids gives you an opportunity to select a flower which fulfills your personal taste among the variation of color and form you will observe when they bloom. Garden hybrid seed is available through Bay View Gardens and the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris, (SPCNI). Seed of the species are available from the Seed Lists of two sections of AIS, the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA), and SPCNI.

In nature, Pacific Coast iris (PCI) generally grow in a well-drained, gritty soil in lightly wooded areas. They thrive where the summers are long and dry, but tolerate rain and snow cover, and some frost, in other times of the year. Although Pacifica iris are only marginally hardy, growing them from seed offers the best chance of acclimatizing them to areas outside of their native home on the Pacific Coast.

The most frequently recommended method for seed culture is as follows: Plant the seeds in a good, moist potting mix in the fall, rather than in the heat of the summer. The mix should be fast-draining with a pH of 6.5 to 7. Plant in pots or flats and cover and firm with about a quarter-inch of potting mix. Plant as many seeds as you can physically separate from each other when it is time to transplant them, (1/2 to 1-inch apart). Keep the soil moist until they germinate, which, on the Pacific Coast, takes two months on the average.

Transplant the seedlings into the garden or into pots when they are 3 to 6 inches tall. [They transplant easily at this stage of growth."] This will generally be from March to May. If pots are your choice, use 6 to 8-inch pots for each seedling. When planted directly into the garden soil, plant them 6 inches apart in rows which are a foot apart. In that way you will have room to thin out those you do not select, or transplant your selections when they bloom.

They grow best in filtered shade or morning sun. Most hybrid seedlings will bloom the following spring. Some individuals take two years to bloom.

Modified from an entry in SPCNI ALMANAC, Fall, 1993.

BEFORE YOU APPLY FERTILIZERS

Lewis Lawyer (California)

By and large, plants will survive in our gardens without any additional fertilization. Even in the Pygmy Forest of Mendocino County, California, which is so near sterile that it commands national attention, plants do survive.

Mere survival, however, is only one of the aspirations we have for our plants. Fertilizers are universally applied to food crops to increase production, a necessity in these times of ever-increasing population. In the same spirit we apply fertilizers to our garden flowers to make them, heaven forbid, larger and more lush than even our wildest hybridizers visualized. We repeatedly get questions about this problem, and a few years ago, I wrote an article for the Region 14, *ALS Bulletin*, not to answer specific questions, but to present some facts about fertilizers which would make it easier for each of us to decide for ourselves, when, how, and how much.

To begin with, we should understand something about the soils to which we add these fertilizers, and, unfortunately, soil is one of the most complicated things on earth! Physically, soils can vary in particle size from chunks to rock and sand down to microscopically small platelets of clay. These particles, along with bits and pieces of organic matter, can be juxtaposed and intermixed in such an array of combinations ranging from scree to almost pure clay, adobe, or gumbo that the chances of getting any two shovelfuls alike are infinitely less than lining up the correct 6 of the 49 numbers available in one of the State Lotteries. Chemically soil is so complex that even after centuries of study, no one has yet claimed to completely understand it. Biologically, soils are infested with an abundance of organisms, all interrelated and interdependent and yet at the same time intercompetitive in such a teeming mass that it makes our most complicated factories and assembly lines pale by comparison.

In these stews, the roots of our plants forage for food, and on the whole they do very well, but since we all have the urge to try to make them do even better, here are a few facts which may help.

It wasn't until the early nineteenth century that de Saussure proposed quite to everyone's surprise, that green plants don't really derive much of their solid matter from the nutrients in soil, but that most of it comes from carbon dioxide in the air. This fact was not easily assimilated, even by scientists, because of the universal belief in the so-called "humus theory of plant nutrition." This theory, which postulated that the food of plants is entirely derived from the brown organic humus in soils, had the weight of centuries of unquestioning acceptance behind it. You can imagine the marching, singing, protesting, and placard-waving of the dedicated organic gardeners of the day when this upstart tried to tell them that no plant on earth could ingest a molecule as large as even the smallest organic molecule in their humus! But the facts are that the dry matter of plants is roughly 45 percent each of carbon and oxygen, and 5 percent hydrogen derived from the air. The nitrogen content varies from less than one percent in woody tissues to as high as 10 percent in some soft tissues. The remaining elements involved, including phosphorus and potassium, which are left behind in the wood ash when plants are burned, represent only 1 to 5 percent of the total.

Why, then, are we so preoccupied with fertilizer applications if they are responsible for only 3 to, at most, 15 percent of the weight of the plants? The answer, of course, is that without the essential elements derived from the soil, there would be no plants at all.

More than 40 elements have been detected in plant tissues. Of these, eleven are considered essential to all plants, and three more are known to be essential to some plants. Of the elements supplied through the soil, nitrogen, sulfur, phosphorus, chlorine, potassium, calcium, magnesium, and iron are, in the order listed, the most abundant in plant tissue.

In a discussion of fertilizer practices, there are four important items which we should consider. The first has to do with the physical properties of the soil. We are stuck with the soil type in our garden, but we can usually amend it to more-closely fit the requirements of some particular plant we want to grow there. Gravely screes and sandy soils are much more pervious than clays or other heavy soils. Water penetrates easier, but disappears rapidly. Soluble fertilizers are more readily available to plant roots, and overdoses tend to burn the plants more than in heavy soils. At the same time, soluble fertilizers tend to leach out of the lighter soils much more rapidly. As a consequence, you should apply fertilizers to these soils more frequently than you do to heavier soils, but in reduced amounts.

The second item for consideration in the application of nutrients to the soil is the type of root involved. Most annuals are shallow rooted and most perennials tend to be deep rooted. There are many exceptions to this: tap-root annuals tend to feed deeply, and many perennials, even some shrubs and trees like the azalea, can be shallow rooted. Iris species can have some very deep anchoring roots, but I would guess that most of their feeding is done through the white roots which occupy the top 6 to 8 inches of soil.

The third item has to do with the complex of living organisms which inhabit soils. They are complex enough even without the intrusion of plant roots, but the complexity increases remarkably when a plant root starts to grow among them. Most plant roots or their root hairs exude materials which attract or stimulate the growth of certain minute organisms in the microscopically small area around the root known as the rhizosphere. This colony of organisms help the root hairs, or may even be essential to their absorption of nutrients in the surrounding soil. Although there is little we can do about this phenomenon, it is important that we know about it because it can become crucial following soil fumigation and the resultant change in the balance of the soil organisms.

The fourth factor for consideration has to do with the chemical composition of your soil. Most soils can and do support plant life without any human intrusion. This is humiliating, but it is a fact which you should consider when you are mulling over exactly what you want to accomplish when you apply your manures. Only you can be the judge of this as it applies to your particular soil.

NITROGEN

Nitrogen tops the list of elements supplied to plants through the soil. It can be applied to the soil in any of three forms: nitrate, ammoniacal, or organic. In large commercial operations the primary consideration is cost, and you often see large tractor-drawn equipment injecting pure gaseous ammonia into the soil. In large orchards it will often be supplied in the form of ammonium sulfate. Plants don't

care what form of nitrogen you feed them, and a good farmer soon learns that he can save a lot of money by applying the cheapest form available at the time. Until you can show by experimentation that one form of fertilizer or another works best for you, cost per unit of nitrogen is a good starting point on which to base your choice.

The nitrate form of nitrogen can be obtained in several formulations including ammonium nitrate and calcium nitrate. Applied in this form, it can be washed into the root zone with water and is available immediately to the plant root.

Ammoniacal nitrogen is available in many forms including ammonia gas, ammonium sulfate, and urea. Some plant species are known to be able to ingest the large ammonium molecule directly through their roots, but how prevalent this ability is is controversial. Controversy aside, however, we know that all forms of ammoniacal nitrogen are converted to ammonium ion almost immediately after contact with the soil, and that in the ammonium form they bind tightly to the soil and cannot be leached to the root zone. It is only after the soil organisms convert the ammonium to nitrate that it moves freely through the soil and become usable to the root.

If you want to pay a little more and get a little less, you can use any of several organic fertilizers. One possible advantage of organic fertilizers is that, because of their more complex structure, it takes a longer time for the soil organisms to break them down to a usable form; thus they may be more slowly available and longer lasting in the soil. In the organic form, however, they are completely useless to plants. Feed lot manures when used in large quantities are useful as a mulch, or a soil amendment, but are a poor source of nutrients, having about one percent each of N, P, and K. The greatest danger is that feed lot manure can have a high salt content and can be the source of serious weed pests such as nut grass and bindweed.

SULFUR

Sulfur is the second most abundant soil-derived nutrient found in plants. It is seldom deficient in garden soils and under normal conditions we can rely on the sulfates in most garden fertilizers as an adequate source. Sulfur is sometimes used to lower the pH of garden soils to accommodate acid-loving plants such as the Pacific Coast, Japanese, and Siberian Iris. This use should be carefully monitored, but in any case it is not strictly a nutritional consideration.

PHOSPHATES

There are two important characteristics in the behavior of phosphorous fertilizers that will help us plan strategies for its application in our gardens. In the soil, phosphorous is taken up by the plant in the form of phosphate. Phosphate is very active chemically, and readily forms compounds with any available chemical. Because of this, phosphates quickly bond to the soil and do not move from the point of application. The other quality is that only a minute amount of the phosphate dissolves in the soil water at any one time. The good part of this is that the part that does not dissolve cannot be washed from the soil, and a single application can last for months or years.

Since phosphates do not wash through the soil, the roots must grow to where

the phosphate is, and even there they find only a very dilute solution of the nutrient. This requires two things: an extensive root system and a strategic placement of phosphorus. The best way to accomplish the latter is to apply phosphate fertilizer before planting and spade or till it into the anticipated root zone. This doesn't mean that the phosphate-containing fertilizers that you broadcast on the soil around your living plants are entirely wasted. There are minute amounts that slowly leach downward, but on the whole, the phosphate simply waits where you have applied it until it is time to replant the bed and it gets tilled into the root zone for the next planting.

Phosphorous fertilizer is commonly available in one of three forms. Rock phosphate, as mined, is almost insoluble, and only slightly available to plants. Superphosphate is rock phosphate which has been treated with acid to make it soluble. It can be purchased in two forms: single superphosphate, and treble superphosphate. The former can be used almost without any restrictions, but treble superphosphate must be carefully measured to avoid burning the plants. The third form, bone meal, is the organic form of phosphate made from ground bones. Chemically it is almost like rock phosphate and is almost insoluble.

For the record, just before planting PCI, I broadcast a visible amount of single superphosphate over the entire bed and spade it in. For some plantings of PCI and for plantings of individual plants such as tall bearded irises or chrysanthemums, I trowel in about two heaping tablespoons of single superphosphate fertilizer plus about a half teaspoon of ammonium sulfate at each plant site.

CHLORINE

The fourth element on our list of plant nutrients, chlorine, is so abundant in soils in the form of chloride, that we worry more about its excess than we do about its deficiency. There is no need to run around your garden with a salt shaker.

POTASSIUM

Potassium (K) is the fifth most abundant soil-derived element found in plants, and third on the list of elements, N, P, and K, contained in complete fertilizers. Potassium is soluble in water, but because it bonds to clay particles and humus in the soil, it is about midway between nitrogen and phosphorus in its availability and persistence. Most of our western soils have adequate potassium, and a plant response to its application is rarely spectacular if even measurable. There are exceptions to this, however, and heavily-cropped vegetable farms are often deficient. You, with perhaps the help of your friendly County Agricultural Agent, will have to be the judge of its importance in your particular circumstances.

All potassium fertilizers are mined from the ground, either as potassium sulfate or potassium chloride. They can be bought in these forms but are usually purchased as part of a complete fertilizer.

MINOR ELEMENTS

All the rest of the soil-derived elements found in plants are usually lumped together under the term minor or trace elements. By and large we need not be

concerned with any of them unless a "deficiency symptom" shows up on our plants. There are many books and articles describing these symptoms, but the best solution is to take a representative part of the plant to someone knowledgeable for diagnosis. Someone who can answer your questions is usually available in the County Agricultural Office, the University, or one of the better nurseries.

The most commonly deficient minor element is iron which, despite its possible presence in large amounts, gets tied up in an insoluble form, primarily in alkaline or poorly-drained soils. Zinc deficiency is fairly common in some orchard, especially citrus, plantings. The symptoms of minor element deficiencies usually show as chlorosis or a yellowing of the leaves and can be corrected by the addition of specialty fertilizers including chelates, or by foliar sprays especially formulated for this purpose.

There are also a few areas where excess minor element symptoms can be observed. Examples of this are the excess of boron in the Hollister and Woodland areas of California, and of cadmium in the foothills near Salinas. Growers of Japanese irises are reminded that calcium is detrimental to this group.

DISCUSSION

Everyone's garden soil and everyone's goals for their garden are different, and what applies to one person's needs may not apply to another. In most areas, irises can be grown without the addition of any fertilizer. If you desire some spectacular blue ribbon show stalks, however, you will probably benefit by feeding your plants. Also, since we all like to see our plants performing to the best of their ability, the addition of a good nutrient supply will certainly be beneficial. I hope that this article has given you enough basic information to help you decide what is best for you. There is ample literature on the subject to fill you in on what I have omitted.

PHOTOGRAPHERS, YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

At the most recent meeting of The AIS Board of Directors, it was voted to feature the medal winners in color in the October issue of the *AIS Bulletin*. The editor needs help from anyone who takes color slides. It is very difficult to get a slide that will reproduce well in color. The editor asks that all of you take pictures of irises which are eligible for any of the AIS medals in 1994. If you have a particularly clear slide of one of these irises, please mail it to the editor for possible use in the *Bulletin*.

Since the ballot deadline is July 1, and counting takes a few days longer, the time element makes having these slides available early a great plus. Please help if you can. You will be given credit for your photographic efforts, and all our readers will appreciate seeing these award winners in color.

BLODGETT IRIS GARDENS

1008 East Broadway

Waukesha, WI 53186

1994 Introductions

FROST MAIDEN (Arthur Blodgett) Sdlg. 87-57. TB 32" M. White standards with a greenish cast. Falls white with greenish cast and pale yellow edge; light yellow beards. Eastertime X Chartreuse Ruffles. \$35.00

WAUKEE PRIDE (Arthur Blodgett) Sdlg. 88-66. TB 36" M. Ruffled campanula violet (HCC 37/1), lighter in center of falls; light yellow beards. (Fuchsia Frills x sib) X Glory Bound. \$35.00

BROADWAY BEAUTY (Arthur Blodgett) Sdlg. B21-88. BB 26" M. Salmon pink self; tangerine beards. Excellent bloomer and grower with many buds. Pink Graces X B20-83: (Fuchsia Frills x (Peach Festival x Favorite's Daughter)). . . . \$25.00

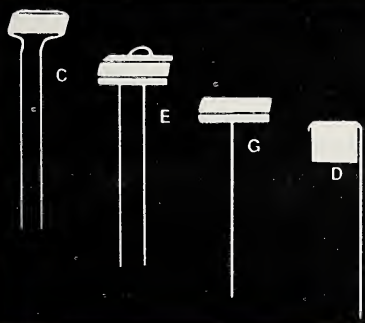
1993 Introductions

APRICOT FLUSH (Arthur Blodgett) TB 32" M. Buttercup yellow (HCC 5/2) with tangerine beards. Closed, ruffled standards and flaring falls. \$30.00

FULL FASHIONED (Arthur Blodgett) TB 34" LM. Ruffled rose-pink with tangerine beards. Large blossoms with heavy substance. \$30.00

Order from this ad. No price list.

Please include \$3.50 for postage and shipping.



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BROWN'S SUNNYHILL GARDENS

Route 3, Box 102

Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

Phone (503) 938-3010

LATER ON (O. Brown '94) TB, 36", VL. This lovely ruffled pink iris will extend your iris season. Nicely branched with 7-8 buds. Closed standards, nicely flaring falls with thick deep coral beards. 83-1F3: Chanteuse X 78-6A50: ((Dawn Flight x Winter Olympics) x (Pink Sleigh x Sweet 'n' Lovely)). \$30.00

LAVALIER (O. Brown '94) BB, 26", M. Very clean lavender (mauve) with mauve beards overlaid light tangerine. Three well-spaced branches plus spur and terminal. Several ruffled blooms open at a time. Eight buds. 81-4D16, inv. Schiaparelli, Instant Charm, Baroque, Saber Dance and Silver Shower \$30.00

WIDE ALERT (O. Brown '94) TB, 36-38", M. This wide, flaring peach with its full saturn red beards will catch your eye as you walk by. Well-spaced branching with 7-8 buds. 82-18G: ((Snow Blaze x Royal Coachman) x Sittin' Pretty) X 78-10D5: (73-12B x 76-4C: (Pink Sleigh x Rose Caress sib)) \$30.00

*Order from this ad—No catalog this year
Please include \$3.50 for shipping and handling*

TIMOTHY STANEK PRESENTS FOR 1994

O MY GOLD—Sdlg. 88-34-Gold: (Yukon Fever X Glazed Gold). TB, 38", ML-L, 8-12 buds. A brilliant non-fading golden yellow. Ruffled and lightly laced with heavy substance. Stds. RHS 15A, and falls 17B, deepening to 17A near hafts; orange (25A) beards. Blooms freely. Field hardiness tested in Nebraska. . . . \$40.00

Previous Introductions

CHAMPAGNE ON ICE ('93) Very ruffled champagne yellow over cream with halo; end of beards lavender. \$25.00

SILICON PRAIRIE ('91) Unique color combination—light blue over uranium green; ruffled. HC '90, HM '93. \$12.00

ARCTIC SPRING (Ensminger by Stanek '91) BB, 24". White with green halo on falls. L-VL bloom season. \$6.00

EIGHT MILE GROVE

P.O. Box 7225

Omaha, NE 68107

BURCH IRIS GARDEN

205 Knox Drive
Huntsville, AL 35811

1994

BIG ISSUE (BB) Maroon standards, maroon-black falls with a bronze beard. This iris has *always* bloomed in border class at home (16-18") and in guest gardens. Its dark blooms with closed standards and slightly flaring falls appear on 2 branches and a spur. Multiplies and blooms well like MISS NELLIE. \$20.00

OLD MONEY (TB) Gold self that has brown hafts and red flecks on falls. Falls are almost flared and quite ruffled. Standards are slightly domed. The 4 branches are an S-shaped candelabra with 7 buds. . . \$30.00

SET THE TONE (TB) Deep maroon-red self with a lighter edge around the shiny, velvety falls. The beard and lower style arms appear almost electric lighted yellow. This outstanding color has not faded in full sun. There are 7-9 buds displayed on 4-5 branches and a spur, evenly spaced on upper half of stalk. Best seedling in several spring shows. \$30.00

BIG VICTORY (90) BB White, gold beard, HM 92 7.50

DESERT TRIUMPH (92) S-Tan, F-Red-violet 10.00

DIXIE CLASSIC (89) Brown, orange beard 5.00

DIXIE CUP (91) Yellow 7.50

ELIZABETH CAROL (86) Red-black self, HC 83 3.00

FANCY STITCHES (92) Blue-violet, light plicata markings . . . 10.00

GOING PLACES (89) Red-violet self, many blooms 5.00

ICY RUFFLES (93) Ruffled white, slightly greenish on F. 17.50

LARCENIST (89) Pink self, showy stalk, HM 93 5.00

MAINSTAY (91) BB Pale Pink 6.50

MANUSCRIPT (90) Pale red-violet, HM 93 7.50

MISS NELLIE (83) BB S-Yellow, F-Yellow, red, purple blend
HM 85, AM 87, Knowlton Medal 90 3.00

POLISHED IMAGE (93) Gold 17.50

SOOTHING (91) Light lavender self 10.00

STARSTRUCK (90) Ruffled orange self 7.50

TIMBERWIND (92) Yellow, excellent garden & show iris 10.00

My previous introductions, including BALLAD OF DIXIE, BAMA BERRY, FROSTY JEWELS, JEWEL STARLIGHT, KIRSCH, OCEAN SWELLS, PATRICIAN ELEGANCE, SILVERY DEW, are available, as stock permits, for \$3.00 each.

Please include \$5 to partially cover the expenses of packing and shipping.

INTRODUCTIONS from DAVE NISWONGER

- ALMOST RICH** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 31-88: 45-85: (Everything Plus x La Zanzara) X Charmed Life. TB, 34", M. This is a neglecta plicata with blue stds. and a deeper blue streak in the midribs. The falls have a white ground with blue-violet rim. The beards are blue. It's a good increaser and dependable bloomer. It was named by Polly Chism of Festus, MO. It is fertile both ways. \$35.00
- BOLD VIOLET** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 48-91: 20-87: (C. Palmer 72-59: ((Wilma V x unknown) x Little Titan) x H. Nichols 8109A: (April Anthem x Passport)) X Adoring Glances. SDB, 12", M-L. This is a very vigorous violet with a deeper violet spot near the white beards, which are tipped pale blue. Good width at the hafts and an easy grower. \$15.00
- CHAMPAGNE JUNIOR** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. BB 28-89: Ambling X Champagne Elegance. BB, 26", M. Here's Champagne Elegance all over again but in deeper, more vivid colors of pinkish lilac stds. and creamy apricot falls. The beards are white based tipped tangerine. This border sized iris fits in well at the front of the perennial bed. EC '91. \$25.00
- CREAM AND PEACHES** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 33-90: Straw Hat X Ballet Slippers. SDB, 12", M. A yummy color with ivory stds. infused apricot and ivory falls sporting a rich pinkish apricot area around the white based beards tipped tangerine. A sib to Ballet Lesson, Peach Petal Pie and Orange Design, and the only one with fertile pollen. It sets seeds, too \$15.00
- CRAYOLA PINK** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 70-91: Live Jazz X SDB 16-87: (Peach Bavarian x Peach Eyes). SDB, 12", M-L. Near pink SDB with the stds. a lighter shade of pink. The beards are white based and tipped tangerine. Good substance with semi-flaring falls. Fertile. \$15.00
- JADE STONE** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 26-91: SDB 20-87: (C. Palmer 72-59: ((Wilma V x unknown) x Little Titan) x H. Nichols 8109A: (April Anthem x Passport)) X Adoring Glances. SDB, 15", M. Well liked at the Region 7 meeting in Memphis. It's an olive green with a darker green area near the light blue beards. It's a very vigorous grower and very floriferous. \$15.00
- LIGHT 'N EASY** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 32-90: SDB 20-87: (C. Palmer 72-59: ((Wilma V x unknown) x Little Titan) x H. Nichols 8209A: (April Anthem x Passport)) X Adoring Glances. SDB, 12", M. This is a very hard color to describe. It's a blend of pale blue-gray touched with some chartreuse. The white beards tipped yellow are surrounded by a brownish spot. Liked by visitors. \$15.00
- MISSOURI LAKES** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. Sp 2-86: Missouri Streams X unknown (prob. self). Spuria, 38", M. This is a wide light blue with a yellow blaze in the falls. It is a sib to Missouri Rivers but a much lighter blue. Vigorous and fertile. \$25.00
- MISSOURI SPRINGS** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. Sp 2-91: Sp 1-86: (Missouri Streams x unknown) x *I. demetrii*. Spuria, 40", M-L. We have had a problem with fading in the blues. *I. demetrii* seems to have solved that problem—at least in Missouri. This is a deep blue with a small yellow signal. The flower does not have the full wide form such as Missouri Rivers or Missouri Lakes, but has all the vigor you would expect from a first generation hybrid. Not very fertile. \$25.00

- ORANGE DESIGN** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 11-91: Straw Hat X Ballet Slippers. SDB, 11", M. A light orange deepening near the hafts. The beards are white based tipped orange. It has good width and substance like its sibs. It will set seed but no pollen.\$15.00
- PINK ELF** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 8-91: Tell Fibs X SDB 3-88: (Peach Bavarian x Peach Eyes). SDB, 10", M. A very unique blue-pink that has a dark blue streak emerging from the blue beards. It has nice width and substance and is fertile both ways.\$15.00
- PLUM RIPPLES** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 41-91: Chubby Cheeks X Court Magician. SDB, 14", M. This is a light violet or plum plicata that has a white ground in the falls. The beards are blue. It's a good grower and dependable bloomer.\$15.00
- SKY BLUE PINK** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 95-91: Pink Blue Genes x 58-88: (Matinee Idol x Pink Ballerina). TB, 34", M. Pinks with blue beards haven't been the easiest color combination to perfect, but this is a good vigorous contribution to this effort. The name was suggested by Mary Lou Cushman of Sherman, TX. Fertile both ways.\$35.00
- SOLFRIANE** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 46-88: Brandy X Pink Ballerina. TB, 33", M. This iris is named in honor of Elizabeth Meier from Zurich, Switzerland. It is another color difficult to describe, but lilac-pink comes close. There is a slight streak of the same color coming from the pink beards down the falls. There are ruffles and nice form, adding to this new color. It's fertile both ways.\$35.00
- SPIRIT OF SOUTHEAST** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 79-89: All That Jazz X Gatty K41-1: (Show Biz x Villain). TB, 36", M. Named in honor of the employees of Southeast Missouri Hospital who really have the caring spirit. It has gold stds., maroon falls with a very slight streak below the beards and very pale edging around the falls. Gold beards. The colors approach those in the logo of the hospital. It was the best seedling in the SEMO Iris Society Show in 1992. A good grower I think you will enjoy.\$35.00
- SUMMER FRUIT** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. SDB 2-91: Live Jazz X SDB 16-87: (Peach Bavarian x Peach Eyes). SDB, 12", M. Semi-flaring and laced bicolor of light yellow stds. and orange falls. The beards are tangerine with a slight blue tip. For diversity, you will like this one.\$15.00
- UPSIDE DOWN** (Niswonger '94) Sdlg. 34-84: Battle Fury X Lilac Lass. TB, 33", M. How else would you name a reverse amoena with lilac-blue stds. and near white pale lilac-blue falls? The beards are white based with red tips. A showy addition to this color class. Fertile both ways.\$35.00

Enclose \$4.00 for shipping

Catalog \$1.00, refundable.

D & J GARDENS

Duane & Joyce Meek

7872 Howell Prairie Road, N.E.

Silverton, OR 97381

(503) 873-7603

1994 INTRODUCTIONS

AWAKENING (D. Meek) Sdlg. 287-1-7. TB, M-L, 35". Heavily ruffled deep pink standards. Wide and ruffled pink falls lightening to ivory from beards to slightly picoteed rim with hint of soft tan at hafts. Henna beards, lavender-blue at end. Four branches, 7-8 buds. Form is exquisite! Silver Fox X (Blushing Pink x Beverly Sills). See color ad in this Bulletin \$35.00

BABY GRAND (D. Meek) Sdlg. 69A-1-4. BB, M-L, 24-25". Ruffled, heavily textured and beautifully formed blue reverse amoena. Blue-violet standards flushed deeper at midrib, white falls and blue beards. Four branches, 6-7 buds. Edge of Winter X ((Apropos x Rococo) x Blue Luster). Name freely given by Joe Ghio last May after we agreed to take him to the airport. \$25.00

BRAZEN BEAUTY (D. Meek) Sdlg. 66-1-5. TB, M, 35". Precise raspberry-pink rims on clean ivory ground. Lighter and wider rims on standards. Brick beards, raspberry at end. Heavily ruffled and laced. Four branches, 7-8 buds. Lingering Love X Queen in Calico. \$35.00

COUNTRY MOON (J. Meek) Sdlg. 86-11-1. TB, M-L, 36". Ruffled and flaring creamy soft yellow self with deeper beards. Four branches, 8-10 buds, usually 3 open at a time. P. T. Barnum X Brandy. \$30.00

DIAMOND DOLL (J. Meek) Sdlg. 270-1-6. BB, M-L, 25". Ruffled rose-pink standards. Falls lighten to ivory area around tip of melon beards; deeper toned hafts. Four branches, 6-7 buds. Tamara Anne X Paradise. \$25.00

FADED LOVE (J. Meek) Sdlg. 391-2-3. TB, M-L, 28-30". Slightly open light pink standards. Wide ruffled lavender falls with white area around melon beards. All edges lightly picoteed. Four to five branches, 8-11 buds, 2-3 flowers open at a time. Candace X Janie Meek. \$30.00

RAINBOW MOUNTAIN (D. Meek) Sdlg. 723-2-1. TB, M, 34". Red-violet standards. Deeper falls with dark blue-violet blaze extending from beards to edge. Golden tan hafts; dark violet beards tipped mustard. Four branches, 7 buds. Deep Fire X Cherry Smoke. \$30.00

RAIN MAN (J. Meek) Sdlg. 442-1-3. TB, M, 36". Wide, ruffled white ground plicata with precise red-violet border around all edges. White beards lightly tipped yellow. Red-black stalk. Four branches, 8 buds. Lingering Love X ((Keppel 68-39D, plicata recessive, x Caro Nome) x Sweetheart Waltz). \$35.00

We hope you like the introductions we have chosen for you. Please add \$4.00 for shipping and handling. If you are not on our mailing list and would like a catalog, please send 52¢ in stamps. Wishing you good health and joy throughout the year, and we hope your bloom is abundant in 1994.

Regards, D & J Meek.

DR. and MRS. CURRIER McEWEN and EARTHEART GARDENS

Japanese Irises

Siberian Irises

As announced last year, all of our Japanese irises and our new Siberian irises are now being sold by Eartheart Gardens. As before, the less recently introduced Siberians can be obtained from Fieldstone Gardens of 620 Quaker Lane, Vassalboro, Maine 04989. Please write to them for their separate catalogue.

New Japanese Iris Introductions for 1994

JAPANESE HARMONY—Tetraploid, 3 falls, 32", M-L. The 7" flowers have violet standards with narrow white edges, contrasting with pure white styles and falls, the latter enhanced with pale yellow veins. Up to two branches and four buds. An outstanding parent.

..... \$35.00

JAPANESE MARBLE—Diploid, 3 falls, 40", M-L. This is our favorite with marbled pattern. The 8" flowers are splashed with dark violet and white. Three excellent branches carry up to 8 buds over a very long period of bloom. \$35.00

New Siberian Iris Introductions for 1994

DREAMING BROWN—Tetraploid, 32", L. To be sure the brown is just a dream, but the brown tones blend with the violet-blue at base of falls. A late season extender. Nicely ruffled. \$30.00

HARPSWELL PRELUDE—Tetraploid, 26", VE & RE. The 5" medium violet-blue flowers are the first to open at Seaways and repeat for a very long season of bloom. Nicely branched with 3-4 buds. Excellent parent. \$35.00

HARPSWELL VALOR—Tetraploid, 34", M-L. Dark violet-blue 5½" flowers have lovely ruffled form with wide tufted styles. Fine branching, 3-4 buds. Robust grower and season extender. \$35.00

RUFFLED ROUND—Tetraploid, 30", EM-LM. Perhaps our finest Siberian iris to date. The beautifully ruffled and velvety 6" dark violet-blue flowers have falls so wide, they overlap, giving a lovely round form. Small white signals, one branch, and 3-4 buds. Limited stock. \$50.00

Plants will be shipped by priority mail. With orders, please add \$6.00 for postage and handling of shipments east and \$9.00 for shipments west of the Mississippi River. Please make checks payable to Eartheart Gardens. To order and to obtain our full list of Japanese and new Siberian irises, write to:

Mrs. Sharon Whitney — Eartheart Gardens

RR 1, Box 847

South Harpswell, ME 04079



D. STEVE VARNER—ILLINI IRIS

Breeder of Bearded and Siberian Irises, Hems and
Peonies

Rt. 3, Box 5A, Monticello, Illinois 61856

Phone (217) 762-3446

1994 Introductions—Order from this ad

ILLINI FOUNTAIN—*I. lactea*. Long bloom—starts ten days before my first SDBs. Two blooms; 2" light lavender-blue stds. and veined very light blue falls. Flowers on 14" stalks are visible above the cascading leaves which mature 26" long. Excellent landscape and cut flowers. Ovoid seeds. \$50.00

LOVELY LOYCE—TB, 32", EM, 5½" wide. Flaring white falls, light violet-blue stds. Near reverse amoena. Slightly ruffled. Sturdy stalks, 4 branches with 9 blooms. Pearl Chiffon X Battle Fury \$35.00

SWEET SUCCESS—SIB, 22", ML, 3" wide. Very luminous royal purple self. Signal limited to very fine gold veins extending from shaft. Two branches (1 low), 3-4 blooms. Unique parentage—#3150: Belfast X Foretell. \$50.00

*No price list this year due to ill health.
Please add \$5.00 to each order for shipping and handling.*

COLLABORATING WITH NATURE

1994 IRIS COUNTRY TB INTRODUCTIONS

BLUE MONTANA SKY—Another blue. Yes! It grows, it blooms, it's pretty.

JOHNNY REB—Smoked rebellious wine-rose with spray pattern.

MAGELLAN—Wide, fat, full icy violet-blue bitone.

MELANCHOLY MAN—Wide, shining silver violet. Sib to Seminole Spring.

\$35.00 Each



IRIS COUNTRY

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6219 TOPAZ ST. NE
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(503) 393-4739 (Evenings)
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1994 INTRODUCTIONS FROM STERLING & BARBARA INNERST

- DOROTHEA MARQUART**—Sdlg. 2953-B-51: (Catalyst X Idol's Dream). TB, 36", M-L. Mid-yellow self, round and ruffled. 7 buds with excellent branching; fertile both ways. Named in memory of a super friend, supporter and grower. \$30.00
- CONTINUITY**—Sdlg. 3489-5: (Codicil X Crystalyn). TB, 36", M-L. Light blue with very dark blue-black beards. Excellent stalks with 9 buds. Fertile both ways. \$30.00
- DESERVING TREASURE**—Sdlg. 1928-8: (Dualtone X Cozy Carol). TB, 36", M-L. Pastel peach-pink standards, pastel lavender-blue falls. Excellent branching with 7-9 buds. Fertile both ways. \$30.00
- JOHN KEARNEY**—Sdlg. 2752-1: (Show Biz X P. T. Barnum). TB, 36", M-L. Yellow standards; red falls. Very bright with good contrast. Great stalks and 7-9 buds. Fertile. Named in memory of my close friend, supporter and excellent iris grower. \$30.00
- HELEN K. ARMSTRONG**—Sdlg. 4077-1: (Thunder Mountain X Codicil). TB, 36", E-L. Light blue standards; dark blue falls; very dark blue beards. Excellent ruffled form with 9 buds. Fertile. Named for a friend's mother from New York, who still gardened at 83. \$30.00
- POOKANILLY**—Sdlg. 35887-10: (Cloudless Sunrise X Dash sib). IB, 18". White standards; brown falls trimmed white; orange beards. Excellent stalk with 5-7 buds. \$15.00
- FINSTERWALD**—Sdlg. 3897-10: (Glazed Gold X Catalyst) X 3608-1: (Dash sib x Comma). Mid-yellow with dark brown spot on falls; huge orange beards. 5 to 7 buds on great stalks. \$15.00
- PIBBLING**—Sdlg. 3530-5: (Hee Haw X Chubby Cheeks). SDB, 12". White, trimmed mulberry plum; blue beards. Excellent round, wide, flaring form. One branch with 4 buds. \$10.00
- SKIDDLE**—Sdlg. 2825-1: (Pippi Longstockings X Do-Si-Do). SDB, 12". Mid-blue with dark blue-purple spot on falls. Spot divided by light blue stripe from blue beard tip to end of spot. \$10.00

Collections: Four Medians • \$40.00*Five TBs—\$125.00

No extras on collections

Include \$3.50 for postage and handling

STERLING & BARBARA INNERST

2700A Oakland Road

Dover, PA 17315

Phone (717) 764-0281

Joe Pye Weed's Garden

Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks

337 Acton Street

Carlisle, MA 01741

1994 INTRODUCTIONS:

JUST BECAUSE—SIBERIAN. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. S86-27-2), 30", M.

Just another blue-violet. We couldn't think of any good reason to introduce this iris except that it is so beautiful—Because, Just Because. A smooth blue-violet self with outstanding form—the falls are full, round, and ruffled and arch gracefully without being recurved. The standards are harmonious in color, shape, and ruffling. The signal is white, neat, and tiny. And the styles which are exquisitely simple have a bluer midrib, turquoise sideribs, and darker edges. It is vigorous and long blooming with one branch and four buds. Purple Prose X Springs Brook. \$30.00

DIRIGO DEBUTANTE—JAPANESE (3F). John White (Seedling No. 86L-24), 41", M-L.

This is the first introduction of our friend from Auburn, Maine, John White. Dirigo Debutante's full, nearly flaring falls have light violet sanding on a white ground. The standards are much darker red-violet and the tufted stylearms have a white rib with violet edges. It is an excellent garden plant—very resistant to wind and rain—vigorous and blooming just above the foliage. Nikko X Continuing Pleasure. \$35.00

FADED JEANS—VERSICOLOR. Harry Bishop, 15", M. A darling small flower on a small plant. Soft and smooth purple falls with lighter standards and pearly stylearms that have a purple midrib in the heart. The signal is less prominent than in many versicolors—white veined with dark purple with a clean yellow "V" in the center. Typical graceful versicolor branching with seven buds. \$25.00

SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

TRANCE—JAPANESE (3F). Warburton 1979, 30", L. Though introduced in 1979 this marvelous iris from Bee Warburton (her only JA introduction) has been relatively unavailable. It made a triumphal reappearance at the 1990 Japanese Iris Convention where it was voted Favorite Garden Iris. We are pleased to offer it now. The pale blue-violet sanded falls are big and blousy with a crinkled texture. The perfect finishing touch is a cluster of darker blue-violet standards and hooded, upright stylecrests. A strong grower with good bud count, it blooms over a long period. \$15.00

I. pseudacorus X I. ensata (Hatsuho)—This interspecies hybrid was developed in Japan by Kamo Nurseries. (This iris is not registered and "Hatsuho" should be treated as a seedling designation and not a name.) Kamo believes this is the first pseudacorus x ensata which is both pod and pollen fertile. The three pale yellow falls are arching and pendant, the small pale yellow standards are upright, the styles are simple without florets or curls. The most dramatic aspect of the flower is a bright yellow signal bordered by a deep red halo which radiates slightly into veins on the falls. For us it has been short (18"), has had one branch—3 buds per stalk, and in spite of light green foliage has been vigorous. Proceeds from this iris go to the 1996 Siberian and Species Convention in Massachusetts \$40.00

Prices include postage

UPS 2nd Day Air add \$4.00 per order.

Send for complete list and descriptions

Foreign orders require postage and phyto fee.



SMALL and TALL IRISES
EVELYN and BENNETT C. JONES
 5635 S.W. Boundary Street
 Portland, Oregon 97221

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1994

ADVANCE DESIGN (B. Jones) SDB, 12". Live Jazz X Pink Caper. Standards are blended peach and pink. Falls are a rusty version of Spanish orange, widely banded lemon yellow. Beards are tangerine. A real advance in pattern, design and color, it is a beauty. Nothing like it!\$15.00

CAPTIVE SUN (B. Jones) SDB, 12". Favorite Angel X 428: (Oregold x Loveshine). Standards are white. On each wide and ruffled fall, a deep chrome yellow sun is held captive by a band of glistening white. Lovely—no question about it.\$15.00

IRISH MOSS (B. Jones) SDB, 12". (Sun Doll x Dixie Pixie) X Bedford Lilac. Bright silver-blue standards, deeper in color at the base. Falls are blue with a green-lined pattern and edged in blue. The large beards are deep violet-blue. A unique color combination, and it works. Honestly!\$15.00

MORNING'S BLUSH (Evelyn Jones) SDB, 14". There is too little space here to list its lengthy pedigree or to adequately describe the bright beauty of Evelyn's most colorful SDB. Standards are a luminous lemon yellow. Falls are orange overlaid with a rosy blush of morning and edged in lemon yellow. Wide, bright carrot-red beards don't hurt it a bit. It grows, and it really blooms. A show off. Don't miss this one.\$15.00

Order from this ad or send stamp for our price list of previous introductions. Please add \$3.50 for postage and packing.

1994 Introduction

MELTED BUTTER

Sdlg. F86-19, TB, 39" (99cm), M-ML. S. white infused butter yellow on midrib; F. white with spray of butter yellow extending halfway down, yellow pleated edge; bright orange yellow (RHS 17A) beard, 1/2" melted butter tip. Cup Race X Coral Beauty. HC 1991. \$40 plus \$3 postage & handling.

Chun Fan

14 Chestnut Drive

East Windsor, NJ 08520



**P.O. Box 19
Boulder, CO 80306**

—Colorado Creations for 1994—

Intermediate Bearded

LITTLE MERMAID (Tom Magee) 20", M. Flesh, mother-of-pearl, sea-quined standards and falls. Red beards, soaked ocean foam, splashing onto falls. Miss Sedona sib. See color ad in this Bulletin. \$15.00

Border Bearded

HEATHER SUZANNE (Carl Jorgensen) Sdlg. 85-P-1C, 26", M-VL. Named for one of his granddaughters. A large shell pink beauty in classic form, with widely ruffled, flaring falls and closed standards. Well-branched stalks carry up to 7 buds. Blooms late into the season. May be a TB in some regions. Slight fragrance. \$25.00

LASSO LANE (Mildred Wasmundt) 26", M-L. Bronze brown standards, violet falls rimmed with greyed orange, and lemon gold beards set off this colorful child of Brown Lasso. Several years of trials have shown this to be a very reliable and durable garden iris. Nine buds. Brown Lasso X Drury Lane. EC '85. See color ad in this Bulletin. \$20.00

LEMON UP (Tom Magee) 27" M. Effervescent taste of bubbly lemon soda standards and falls. More concentrated twist of lemon beards. Eastertime X 8113E: (768: (((Above All x Fuji's Mantle) x (Mary Randall x Strike Me Pink sib)) x ((Strike Me Pink x Fair Luzon) x Pink Sleigh)) x Mandolin). EC '93. See color ad in this Bulletin. \$20.00

TOMMYKNOCKER (Ray Lyons) Sdlg. 82-45-2, 20", M-L. Like it's the mythical namesake of the Cornish miners, the elf who blew out their lights, moved their tools, and created all kinds of mischief. Small, very dark red-black, dark bronze beards and . . . COOL. Royal Trumpeter X (Annette x Casino Queen). HC '92. \$25.00

Tall Bearded

DIJON MOUTARDE (Carl Jorgensen) Sdlg. 84-P-7A, 32", M-VL. The name says it all! A most unusual large-flowered, ruffled mustard self of classic form. Six-plus buds on well-branched S-curved stalks. Slight mustard fragrance. \$30.00

DIRTY DEVIL CANYON (John Durrance) JRD91W-2, 34", ML. Same striking hues as this southwest canyon. Standards are golden yellow. Falls are overlaid and striped with rich red-brown and edged golden yellow. \$30.00

GOLD 'N ROSE (Joe Hoage) Sdlg. H86-15, 34", M-L. This deep rose self is interrupted by a broad band of gold across the hafts and surrounds the bright orange beards. The gold area is continuous, not haft markings, resulting in a golden glow in the heart of a beautiful rose-colored iris. Well-branched stalks with 6-8 buds as you'd expect from a cross of Mulled Wine X Silver Flow. \$30.00

- LONG'S PEAK** (John Durrance) D90-124V, 42", ML. This big purple majesty towers above the rest. Just a light dusting of white snow at the hafts and golden beards complete each flower. Average of eight blooms per sturdy stalk. \$30.00
- MOON LOVE** (Tom Magee) 36", M. Orbiting, sensual Tchaikovsky theme. Low in sky, lunar white standards and falls. Glowing, low on horizon lunar yellow beards and styles. In phase, falls shine a crescent scroll. Leda's Lover X ((Colorado Sunshine x Gold Trimmings) x sib). EC '89. See color ad in this Bulletin. \$30.00
- PEWTER TREASURE** (John Durrance) JRD91W-6, 36", M. Lovely silvery pewter sheen on grey-blue background. Falls accented with a delicate green rim. Seven buds. \$30.00
- ROYAL GORGE** (John Durrance) JRD91W-9, 36", M. Royal violet-blue standards. Falls have darker rim and slightly lighter area around the eye-catching big orange beards. \$30.00
- SUMMIT ANGEL** (Carl Jorgensen) Sdlg. 84-01-2E, 28" M-L. A pristine pure white, very ruffled self. Five-plus buds well spaced on S-curved show stalks; 3 branches plus terminal. Wide, flaring falls, closed standards with excellent flower substance. Long bloom season. Slight fragrance \$30.00
- SUMMIT SUNDAE** (Carl Jorgensen) Sdlg. 85-P-6B, 28", E-L. A showy, ruffled and laced tangerine orange. Falls rimmed deeper orange with bright orange beards. Excellently branched stalks carry up to 9 buds, permitting a long season of bloom. Flowers sport an orange fragrance. \$30.00
- TINTINNABULATION** (Lois Olson) Sdlg. 84-C-10, 36", M. Ring the bells for this ruffly iris of rich red grape color. Feel the rhythm of the silvery lace edges, and hear the tinkle of the delicate silvery spray pattern around the beards. The beards change from yellow in the throat to lavender at the tip. And it grows! Gay Parasol X Pink Sleigh. \$30.00
- TOASTED WATERMELON** (Joe Hoage) Sdlg. H86-27, 34-36", M-L. This rosy brown blend can only be described by its name. As a seedling, complete strangers reported this plant to us before we saw it in its first year of bloom. The red beards fit nicely with this smooth self, a child of Mulled Wine X Lady Friend. Well-branched stalks with 6-8 blooms. \$30.00

You may order directly from this ad. Please include \$3.00 for shipping and take a 10% discount if your order totals more than \$50.00. If you would like a copy of our free catalog, please let us know.

Please come visit during our bloom season (late May and early June). In addition to all these fine Colorado creations, we're delighted to be the site of the Region 20 Tall Bearded Display Garden, this year featuring over 240 varieties of 1992 and 1993 introductions from more than sixty hybridizers outside of Colorado.

Nebraska-Born Irises

Hardy to -20°

Varigay Gardens 1994 Price List

BRINDLED BEAUTY TB 1994

A beautiful variegated Iris with white background and violet streaks. (See picture on adjacent page.)

With the purchase of BRINDLED BEAUTY, you will receive LOLLAPALOOSA TB '93, a big rose pink. In addition you will also receive either SUNCATCHER TB '92, pictured page 66, AIS Bulletin 285, or ISN'T THIS SOMETHING TB '93, pictured page 70, AIS Bulletin 289.

Our choice, but you may indicate preference.

Three beautiful TBs for \$35.00.

BB Collection 1993

CALICO KID—Seedling #85-19, venetian pink, striped bishops violet with red beard

CALORIFIC—An amoena with mauve falls and a saturn red beard

CAN DO—An attractive lavender-violet plicata with a black beard

UH HUH—Lavender-rose self with yellow beard

VERY VARIED—Royal purple with white streaks and yellow beard

YO—Rhodamine purple with a saturn red beard. Appears to be a red Iris in the garden.

The above 6 beautiful Border Bearded Irises, all 1993 introductions, for \$30.00.

IB Collection 1990

BASSO—Dahlia purple - HM '92

BLUE EYED BLOND—Yellow-blue beard - AM '93

COME SEE—White with violet edging, intro. '92

HERS—White with lavender flush, intro. '90

HIS—Chrome yellow-violet flush - HM '92

HUBBUB—Variegated - HM '91

JOHN—Standards brown, falls yellow - HM '92

KERMIT—Chartreuse with blue base - HM '92

MORNING SHOW—Cardinal red - AM '92

WILLOW WARE—Blue amoena - HM '92

The above 10 beautiful, award-winning Intermediate Irises for \$30.00.

1994 SDB Collection

We have a collection of beautiful standard dwarfs available this year for a limited number of orders.

To make the collection inclusive of a greater variety of color patterns, we have included two varieties of several years back. WHAT AGAIN, best out-of-region variety, Median Spree in '93, and Barry Blyth's CHANTED, a rose pink with blue beard.

All the rest are 1994 introductions with these fascinating names - AGELESS, ABUZZ, ABBA ALIAS ABBA, ACEY DEUCY, TERRA VERDE, VAVOOM, AJAX THE LESS, and OOH LA LA.

A total of ten beautiful SDBs for \$30.00.

BB Collection 1988

BATIK—White ground striped purple - Knowlton Medal '92

BERRY RICH—Purple self - AM '92

COLOR BRITE—Pink variegated - remon-tant - HM '89

FEATHERED FRIEND—White serrated edges - AM '88

LITTLE MISS—White, variegated violet - HM '89

LUMINA—Blue-violet, white center - intro. '91

SONJA'S SELAH—Near pink amoena - AM '93

ZINC PINK—Pink - Knowlton Medal '93

The above 8 beautiful Border Bearded Irises for \$30.00.

Terms of Sale

All orders will be acknowledged. Shipments will be made in same sequence as orders are received unless otherwise requested. Shipments will be made by UPS on Mondays between July 1 and Aug. 31. Irises listed in collections may not be purchased separately. For orders less than \$50.00, please include \$3.00 to help pay for shipping.

VARIGAY GARDENS

7909 Cornhusker Hwy.

Allan Enslinger

Lincoln, NE 68507



BRINDLED BEAUTY

A beautiful variegated Iris with a good stalk and many buds.

For many years we have been trying to break the genetic tie that has combined the variegated color pattern with poor branching and low bud count.

Now we have BRINDLED BEAUTY with a well-branched stalk and a long bloom season. You'll like the contrasting colors that this unusual Iris brings to your garden.

See adjacent page for more details.

VARIGAY GARDENS

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Allan Ensminger

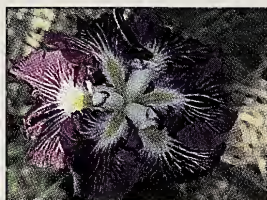
Lincoln, NE 68507

THE IRIS POND

7311 Churchill Road, McLean, VA 22101



ODYSSEUS



PERSEPHONE

We are pleased to introduce in 1994 two new outstanding Japanese iris cultivars from Sterling Innerst:

ODYSSEUS (Innerst '94). Sdlg. 2812-1, Japanese, 36", M, 6 large white falls with subtle red-blue lines from signal to petal edges. Petals have slight blue-red edges. White styles with red-blue crests. You will not confuse this elegantly colored iris with any other. (Jocasta X Iapetus) \$35.00

PERSEPHONE (Innerst '94). Sdlg. 1555-2, Japanese, 36", M, 6 large falls, 3 branches, 6 buds! Brilliant wine-red with prominent white area flaring out from the full yellow signal to almost the edge of petals. White styles gently kissed wine-red. (Yusho X Banners on Parade) \$35.00

We are also pleased to introduce two new table irises:



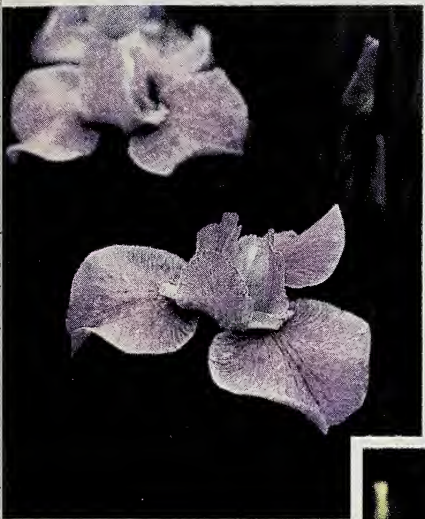
REMINISCENCE

REMINISCENCE (Mahan '94). Sdlg. MTB90-2. MTB, 18", M. Ruffled mineral violet standards; velvety plum purple edged mauve; prominent white reticulations at hafts; pale lavender styles; bright gold beards. Lovely branching, lovely iris. (Consummation X Rosemary's Dream). EC '93. \$15.00

ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan '94). Sdlg. 788-3 (MTB), MTB, 19", ML. Pure white self with yellow beards. Balanced form, wonderful substance. Nice branching. In English folklore, Robin Goodfellow is a mischievous elf who dwells in the garden, but the only thing this little iris will steal is your heart. (White Canary X Table Queen). .. \$15.00

Order from this ad, or send \$1.00 for price list with extensive offerings and specials.

ENSATA GARDENS



TL: SPRINKLES (Bauer-Coble 94)
BL: LEE'S BLUE (Bauer-Coble 94)

TR: FISHERMAN'S MORNING (Jim Copeland 94)
BR: MESA PEARL (Bauer-Coble 94)

1994 - our first Siberian Iris introductions and Jim Copeland's first Siberian. We are also introducing a new Japanese Iris by Jonnye Rich, SUMMER MOON: a big double, creamy white.

Our 1994 color catalog --- \$2 for three years on our mailing list.

Bob Bauer

John Coble

ENSATA GARDENS

9823 E. MICHIGAN AVE.

GALESBURG, MI 49053

SET YOUR ALARM FOR . . .



AWAKENING

(Duane Meek '94)

\$35.00

Silver Fox X (Blushing Pink x Beverly Sills)

See ad listing our 1994 introductions in this Bulletin.

D & J GARDENS

Duane & Joyce Meek

7872 Howell Prairie Rd., N.E.
(503) 873-7603

Silverton, OR 97381



GRATEFUL CITIZEN (S. Innerst 1994) M 36" \$35.00

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FUNNY GIRL (J. Gibson 1994) ML 38"

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RAVEN'S QUOTE (R. Ernst 1994) M 35"

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SMALL and TALL IRISES from EVELYN and BENNETT C. JONES



MORNING'S BLUSH

E. Jones SDB \$15



CAPTIVE SUN

B. Jones SDB \$15



ADVANCE DESIGN

B. Jones SDB \$15

For details on these 1994 introductions, see our ad on page 53

5635 S.W. Boundary Street

Portland, Oregon 97221

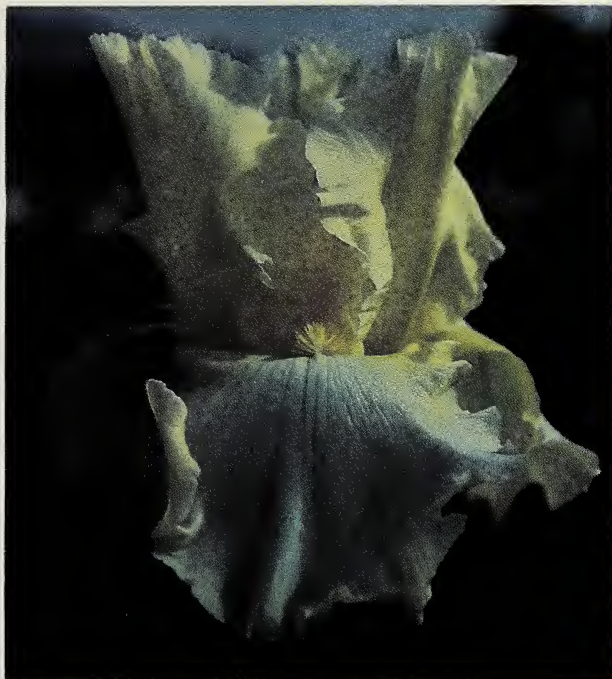


LASSO LANE BB (9 buds)
(BROWN LASSO X DRURY LANE)
(M. Wasmundt '94)

\$20



See ad
on
page
54



MOON LOVE (Tom Magee '94) TB 36". Orbiting, sensual Tchaikovsky theme. Low in sky, lunar white stds. & falls. Low on horizon lunar yellow beards and styles glowing at base of S. & F. In phase, falls shine a crescent scroll. Leda's Lover X ((Colorado Sunshine x Gold Trim-mings) x sib). EC '89 \$30.00



LEMON UP (Tom Magee '94) BB 27" M. Effervescent taste of bubbly soda stds. & falls. More concentrated twist of lemon beards. Eastertime X 8113E: (((Above All x Fuji's Mantle) x (Mary Randall x Strike Me Pink sib)) x ((Strike Me Pink x Fair Luzon) x Pink Sleigh)) x Mandolin). EC '93 \$20.00



LITTLE MERMAID (Tom Magee '94) IB 20" M. Flesh, mother-of-pearl, sea-quined stds. & falls. Red beards, soaked ocean foam, splashing onto F. Miss Sedona sib. \$15.00



A



B5

B9

B8

B7

B2

B4

B3

B1

B6



C13

C20

C19

C18

C15

C12

C14

C17

C10

C11

C16

EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE TELL THE WORLD YOU ARE JUST CRAZY ABOUT IRISES W/ "JUST CRAZY ABOUT" EXCLUSIVE '94 LIMITED ITEMS			
A	WRAP AROUND PHOTO IRIS MUG	JCA101	\$12.00
	COLORFUL IRIS IS ON BOTH SIDES OF MUG		
B1	SPOON REST—9-1/2" CERAMIC	051250	\$7.00
	COMES WITH LEATHER CORD FOR HANGING		
B2	MUG—BLACK	813030	\$7.50
	FDA APPROVED GLAZE STONEWARE.		
	MICROWAVE/DISHWASHER SAFE, GIFT BOXED		
B3	MUG—WHITE	051030	\$7.50
	FDA APPROVED GLAZE STONEWARE,		
	MICROWAVE/DISHWASHER SAFE, GIFT BOXED		
B4	MUG—TALL	051046	\$7.50
	FDA APPROVED GLAZE STONEWARE,		
	MICROWAVE/DISHWASHER SAFE, GIFT BOXED		
B5	COFFEE CANISTER	DISCONTINUED	
B6	TRAVEL MUG—3-1/2" TALL	051286	\$9.50
	FDA APPROVED GLAZE STONEWARE,		
	MICROWAVE/DISHWASHER SAFE, GIFT BOXED		
B7	CUP—PORCELAIN	051366	\$8.50
	FINE QUALITY PORCELAIN		
	FDA APPROVED GLAZE, GIFT BOXED		
B8	ROOM SCENTER—5-3/4" TALL	051000	\$11.50
	INCLUDES COOKER, SAFETY TESTED BASE,		
	CANDLE, ROOM SCENTER POTPOURRI, GIFT BOXED		
B9	TRAY—14" ROUND	051079	\$6.70
	METAL TRAY 7/8" DEEP		

C10	B BAG—BOTTLE BAG, WHITE	051014	\$2.20
	4" X 13" X 3-1/2"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C11	BAG—PETITE, WHITE	DISCONTINUED	
C12	BAG—SMALL, WHITE	051021	\$1.50
	4-1/2" X 5-3/4" X 2-1/2"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C13	BAG—LARGE, WHITE	051023	\$3.00
	10-3/8" X 13" X 5"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C14	FRAME—SMALL RESIN	051476	\$8.00
	HAND PAINTED, DETAILED WITH EASEL BACK		
	HOLDS 2" X 3" PICTURE GIFT BOXED		
C15	FRAME—LARGE RESIN	DISCONTINUED	
C16	BAG—PETITE, BLACK	813020	\$0.60
	2-1/2" X 3-1/2" X 1-3/4"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C17	BAG—SMALL, BLACK	813021	\$1.50
	4-1/2" X 5-3/4" X 2-1/2"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C18	BAG—MEDIUM, BLACK	813022	\$2.00
	7" X 9" X 4"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C19	BAG—MEDIUM, WHITE	051022	\$2.00
	7" X 9" X 4"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		
C20	BAG—LARGE, BLACK	813023	\$3.00
	10-3/8" X 13" X 5"		
	PVC COATING, ROPE HANDLES, & HANG TAG		

NOTE:

ALL ITEMS WILL BE DISCONTINUED BY YEAR END.
WE ARE TRYING TO STOCK UP ON THE MOST POPULAR ITEMS.
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WE Love hearing from you.

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JUST CRAZY ABOUT . . .

2899 E. BIG BEAVER #234 TROY MI 48083-2400

1-(800) IRIS-LOVER



EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE*EXCLUSIVE

TELL THE WORLD YOU ARE JUST CRAZY ABOUT IRISES W/
"JUST CRAZY ABOUT" EXCLUSIVE '94 LIMITED ITEMS

D	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE MUG	JCA102	\$8.00
	IRIS IS ON BOTH SIDES OF MUG		
D	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE TEE SHIRT	JCA103	\$15.00
D	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE SWEAT SHIRT	JCA104	\$25.00
D	JCA—IRIS OUTLINE TOTE BAG	JCA105	\$12.00
	Appx 14x13x3"—printed area appx 9x9, 100% cotton duck cloth		
E21	INVITATIONS—8 COUNT	051017	\$3.00
	6-1/4" X 4-1/4" W/COORDINATING ENVELOPES		
E22	NAPKINS—DINNER/GUEST TOWELS	051005	\$3.40
	16 COUNT		
E23	NAPKINS—LUNCHEON 16 COUNT	051004	\$3.10
E24	NAPKINS—BEVERAGE 16 COUNT	051001	\$2.10
E25	NAPKINS—BEVERAGE 50 COUNT	051002	\$7.50
	GIFT BOXED		
E26	NAPKINS—DINNER/GUEST TOWELS	051006	\$11.00
	40 COUNT, GIFT BOXED		
E27	PLATES—8", 8 COUNT	051015	\$2.60
E28	PLATES—10-1/2", 8 COUNT	051009	\$4.00
E29	RECIPE BOX	051128	\$15.00
	LAMINATED STURDY BOARD WITH HINGED LID PVC FINISH WIPES CLEAN WITH DAMP CLOTH WITH 50, 3-1/2" X 5" RECIPE CARDS AND 14 PRINTED DIVIDERS		
E30	RECIPE CARDS	051275	\$3.00
	50, 3-1/2" x 5" RECIPE CARDS		

F31	PLAYING CARDS—2 DECKS	051260	\$10.00
	STANDARD NUMBERS, ROUNDED CORNERS DURABLE FINISH, SHRINK WRAPPED IN OPEN BOX		
F32	BRIDGE TALLIES—12 COUNT	051236	\$2.50
	2-1/2" X 3-1/4", 2 & 3 TABLE FORMAT PEGGABLE BACKER CARD		
F33	BRIDGE SCORE PADS	051237	\$2.00
	3-1/2" X 5-1/2", 25 SHEETS PER PAD PEGGABLE BACKER CARD		
F34	NOTE PAD—60 PAGES	051235	\$1.70
	DECORATED COVER W/COORDINATING SOLID PAGES		
F35	TIN SQUARE	DISCONTINUED	
F36	ADDRESS BOOK—SMALL	051108	\$3.50
	3" x 4-1/8" x 1/2", 96 PAGES ALPHABET—TABBED PAGES		
F37	NOTE CARDS—10 COUNT	051201	\$5.00
	4-1/2" x 6" x 1" BLANK NOTES W/COLOR COORDINATED ENVELOPES		

NOTE:

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Voice Mail - 24 Hours - Inquiries

1-810) 280-1948 or 1-313-927-8646

GUARANTEE: If for any reason a product does not meet your expectations, return it to us and we will gladly exchange it, refund the purchase price, or credit your account.

SAVE CATALOG PAGES. As long as we can obtain merchandise we will be glad to ship to you, although, some items may be discontinued or subject to price change without notice.

Order Date ____ New Customer ____ Name Change ____ Address Change ____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Note: UPS cannot ship to P.O. Boxes inside a post office

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ISSUE	PAGE	ITEM#	SIZE	COLOR	DESCRIPTION	QTY	PRICE EA	TOTAL

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\$ 50.01 - \$ 90.00		\$7.00
\$ 90.01 - \$110.00		\$8.00
Over	\$110.00	\$9.00

SUBTOTAL

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(INCLUDING SHIPPING

TOTAL

Check or Money Order/No Cash Please (U.S. Funds Only)
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Every effort is made for this catalog to be accurate. If an occasional printing error occurs, we reserve the right to bill at the correct price.

THE LOUISIANA IRISES

Norlan C. Henderson (Missouri)

This small group of native American irises, limited, primarily, to the southeastern United States, has created a tremendous interest among botanists and horticulturists over the past seventy years. Yet, with all of the efforts that have been directed toward its study, it remains one of the primary taxonomic problems in the genus *Iris*.

The classification scheme of the Genus *Iris* which we have accepted for our studies, is that of Brian Mathew (1981) which was based on arrangements of Diels (1930) and Lawrence (1953). This group of five (as we are recognizing them) very closely related species are placed in Subgenus LIMNIRIS, Section LIMNIRIS, Series HEXAGONAE, with *Iris hexagona* Walt. as the type species.

HISTORICAL

Iris hexagona: Thomas Walter described this species in his "Flora Caroliniana" in 1788. In his discussion of *hexagona*, Dykes (1913) cites seven herbarium specimens, three from Florida and four from the area of New Orleans, LA, but none from South Carolina. He says of it, "... it is a magnificent *Iris* with broad foliage and stems over 3 feet high." He lists its distribution as "The southeastern United States."

Iris fulva: was named, described, and illustrated in the Botanical Magazine, plate 1496, by Ker-Gawler in 1812. Its range is limited to the lowlands along the Mississippi River from the southeastern counties of Missouri and the south-western counties of Illinois to the Mississippi Delta of Louisiana. This species was also illustrated in the 1927 edition of Addisonia (plate 388). In the Series this is the most distinctive iris in form, habit, and coloration. Its separation as a distinct entity is unquestioned.

Iris foliosa: was described by Mackenzie and Bush in 1902, a name that was recognized for a number of years and is listed as one parent of several of the early hybrids. R. C. Foster (1937) pointed out that "It has been necessary to change the name of this species, which has been known since 1902 as *I. foliosa*, since Rafinesque in 1817 described an *Iris brevicaulis*, a description which he amplified in 1837, the two together leaving no doubt as to the identity of this species and *I. foliosa*." It was also illustrated as *foliosa* in Addisonia (plate 315) in 1924. This species ranges as far north as Essex County, Ontario (Scoggan, 1978), south through the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Valleys into Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana then eastward into Mississippi and Alabama, with one known record from Jackson County, Florida (Godfrey & Wooten, 1979). Unlike the other species of the group, it is often found on shaded hillsides and on prairies but not in extremely wet ditches and swamps.

For a period of more than 100 years, during which much exploration and collecting was done, these three species: *hexagona*, *fulva*, and *brevicaulis* (syn. *foliosa*) were the only American species that had a 6-angled capsule. Several herbarium specimens of *brevicaulis* were actually identified as *hexagona*.

Small in Addisonia pgs. 51-52 (1924) illustrated *Iris hexagona* (plate 314) from "plants collected near Mount Pleasant, South Carolina", and described this species in detail and gave its distribution as "confined to the southern Atlantic and Gulf Coast strip, but its range is not yet known; from the coast of South Carolina and Georgia it passes diagonally across northeastern Florida to near the angle of the Gulf Coast, whence it extends westward." He also makes the statement, "As far as we can learn much of the material cultivated in gardens as *Iris hexagona* really does not represent that species. It seems that almost any large-flowered *Iris* from the southern Coastal Plain is distributed as '*I. hexagona*'."

In the same edition of Addisonia, pgs. 57-58, Small named and illustrated (plate 317) *savannarum* and said of its distribution, "(It) has successfully 'burned its bridges' behind it, for there is no vestige of it between peninsular Florida and the elevated Appalachian Highlands when it, or its immediate ancestors, descended after the most recent extensive elevation of the continent.—The type specimens were collected on the southern side of the Caloosahatchee (river) near Olga, Florida. From one of these the accompanying illustration was made."

On pages 3-4 of the 1929 edition of Addisonia, Small described and illustrated (plate 450) *albispirtus* which was collected "on the prairies on both sides of the Caloosahatchee east of Fort Myers.—So far there was nothing to indicate that these colonies were not albinos of *Iris*

savannarum." Yet, after blooming them at the New York Botanical Garden in 1928, (from which the illustration was made) he said, "—the flowers showed marked differences from those of *Iris savannarum*, for the blades of the sepals and petals are crisped and finely many toothed, the style-branches are often toothed along the edges, and the style-appendages are more sharply cut. These characters, curiously enough, indicate a relationship to the white irises of the lower Mississippi Delta."

On pages 59-60 of the 1924 *Addisonia*, Small illustrated (plate 316) and described *I. Kimballiae*. "In the swamps within the city limits of Apalachicola are two quite distinct species, both of them botanically undescribed. Plants of one of these sent to the New York Botanical Garden by Winifred Kimball in the fall of 1921 flowered the following year, and from them the accompanying illustration was made. This is perhaps, one of the several plants heretofore included under the designation "*Iris hexagona*"; but it really belongs to a different group of the genus, for the pods are obtusely three-angled, instead of having six sharp angles." He does not indicate what the other "undescribed" species could be. He later says, "The geographic range of *Iris Kimballiae* cannot yet be definitely defined. However, it has been found in the swamps along the lower Apalachicola River and in swamps in the vicinity of the lagoons in the coastal region of both sides of the upper part of the peninsula."

On pages 11-12 of the 1927 edition of *Addisonia*, Small illustrated (plate 390) another swamp iris, *rivularis* which occurs in northern Florida and southern Georgia. "The type specimen (from which the illustration was made) was collected along a stream south of the St. Mary's River." (This river forms the eastern end of the Florida-Georgia State line.)

On pages 5-6 in the 1929 *Addisonia*, Small illustrated (Plate 451) and described *giganticaerulea*. Of this he says, "Although specifically well isolated, *Iris giganticaerulea* has taxonomic associates which collectively indicate a common ancestor. This presumably grew in the southeastern highlands during the latest general submergence of the continent, in the Tertiary Period. As the land later became elevated, descendants took different courses, radiating into the Coastal Plain through a sector of about a quarter circle. Thus we now find *Iris rivularis* in the Atlantic Coastal Plain in Georgia and northeastern Florida; *Iris savannarum* in the peninsular Florida Coastal Plain; *Iris Kimballiae* in the East Gulf Coastal Plain and *Iris giganticaerulea* in the Mississippi Delta."

In the 1927 edition of *Addisonia*, Small described and illustrated two other species of the Hexagonae Series: *flexicaulis* which has as its range, "The lower Mississippi watershed and the drainage basins of eastern Texas"; and *vinicolor* whose range is the area "between Lake Pontchartrain and New Orleans."

In the 1929 edition of *Addisonia*, Small described several new species: *violipurpurea*, from the Mississippi River Delta, *chrysophoenicia* from southern Louisiana, *miraculosa* from southern Louisiana, *chrysaëola*, from extreme southern Louisiana, and *atrocyanea* of the Lower Mississippi Delta.

Small and Alexander (1931) in *Botanical Interpretations of the Iridaceae Plants of the Gulf Coast* (Contributions of the New York Botanical Garden), described many new species of *Iris* belonging to the Series HEXAGONAE which must be considered in any comprehensive study of the group:

acleantha	fumiflora	phoenicis
alabamensis	fumifulva	pseudocristata
albilinea	fuscaurea	purpurissata
alticristata	fuscirosea	pyrrholopha
amnicola	fuscisanguinea	regalis
auralata	fuscivenosa	regifulva
aurilinia	gentilliana	rhodantha
bifurcata	ianthina	rhodochrysea
brevipex	iochroma	rosiflora
callilopha	iocyanea	rosilutea
callirhodea	iodantha	rosipurpurea
cerasiodea	iouleuca	rubea
chlorolopha	iophaea	rubricunda
chrysolopha	lancipetala	rubrolilacina
citricristata	lilacinaurea	salmonicolor
citriviola	ludoviciana	schizolopha

crocinubia	marplei	subfulva
cyanantha	mississippiensis	thomasi
cyanochrysea	moricolor	venulosa
dewinkleri	oenantha	violilutea
ecristata	oolopha	violivenosa
elephantina	pallidorosea	viridis
fluvialis	palliducola	viridivinea
fouchiana	parvicaerulea	wherryana
fulvaurea	parvirosea	

Small in his "Manual of the Southeastern Flora" (1933) described two additional species:

atroenantha
tyriana

Iris X nelsonii was a name given by Randolph, in 1967, to a population of *Iris* in southern Louisiana that had been referred to as the 'Abbeville Reds'. This populations of hybrids become one of the central examples of Anderson's concept of "Introgressive Hybridization" (1949, 1962).

DISCUSSION

The publication of these works, particularly those of Small and Alexander, created so much interest in "These Louisiana *Iris*" that some very interesting studies were initiated in attempting to explain this great diversity. Randolph (1934), Viosca (1935), R. C. Foster (1937), Riley (1938), Anderson (1949) and many others studied them from cytological, ecological, and morphological viewpoints.

Our basic question remains: How many species make up the Series HEXAGONAE? What are they?

Two: *fulva* and *hexagona*;

Three: *fulva*, *brevicaulis* and *hexagona*;

Five: *fulva*, *brevicaulis*, *hexagona*, *giganticaerulea* and *nelsonii*;

Or: *fulva*, *brevicaulis*, *hexagona*, *savannarum* and *giganticaerulea*;

Or more?

According to Dykes, *fulva* "stands quite alone in the colour of the flowers, which is bright copper or terra cotta." Its flower form with the petals and sepals both drooping is also distinctive. Although Dykes said, "Herbarium specimens of this *Iris* are only with difficulty distinguished from examples of *I. hexagona*, unless it is possible to see the shape of the standards, which in *I. fulva* are much broader and more obtuse, or the very narrow, short style-branches and minute crests." If the plants of these two species can be seen when fresh and in flower, there can be no doubt that *fulva* is distinct and deserving the recognition as a separate species.

With *brevicaulis* there are, perhaps, some questions. Dykes said in his observations under *hexagona*, "This fine iris and the next, *I. foliosa*, are obviously closely allied, and it would scarcely be surprising to find that they proved to be merely different combinations of certain Mendelian pairs of characters. Evidence of the affinity of *I. fulva* and *I. foliosa* is found in the fact that the former proved to be readily fertile to pollen of the latter. Moreover, the hybrid, *I. fulvala*, has proved not to be entirely sterile, as is usually the case with hybrids between two widely separated species of iris." E. B. Williamson made this same cross and registered one of the clones with the British Iris Society in 1918 as 'Dorothea K. Williamson'.

Godfrey and Wooten (1979) say, "We should emphasize that our description of *Iris hexagona* may be too narrowly drawn to include all of its variant forms. Our knowledge is too limited and unsophisticated even to know, in many cases, which of the plethora of species treated by Small (1933) may be identifiable with it or closely allied to it. Indeed, this includes *I. brevicaulis*, here recognized as specifically distinct from *I. hexagona*, but so treated without much conviction."

I have grown *brevicaulis* over the past 20 years and have seen it growing in several natural sites and have compared it with many populations of other related forms. The clone which I am now growing was collected from the same locality from which McKenzie and Bush collected the type specimen of *I. foliosa*. For a number of years I grew plants from the clone which E. B. Williamson used in producing his 'Dorothea K. Williamson'. I am convinced that it is quite distinct.

From the discussion by Dykes and his listing of the specimens from Louisiana, he is obviously talking of the iris which Small refers to as *giganticaerulea*. The three specimens from Florida are probably specimens of Small's *savannarum*.

Radford, Ahles, and Bell (1968) give the distribution of *I. hexagona* as, "Swamps, rare; Beaufort, Calhoun, Charleston Cos., S. C. (Ga. Fla. Ala.)." In my studies over the past several years, I have examined hundreds of herbarium specimens in all of the major herbaria of the eastern United States and in Kew Gardens in London, and have attempted to see as many of them as I could locate in living populations. The only one that I have not seen in its native locality is *hexagona* from South Carolina. I have recorded herbarium specimens of it from seven localities in five counties in South Carolina, including the three listed above as well as from Berkeley and Williamsburg Counties. In visiting six of these localities in May of 1991, I was unable to find any plants at all.

R. C. Foster (1937) recognized *fulva*, *brevicaulis* and *hexagona* as the three species making up the Series HEXAGONAE. He subdivided *hexagona* into four varieties: var. *hexagona*, var. *savannarum*, var. *giganticaerulea* and var. *flexicaulis*. Of the latter he says, "Smaller than *I. hexagona* and apparently close to *I. brevicaulis*.—In certain essential points, this plant stands nearer *I. hexagona* than it does to *I. brevicaulis*. Nevertheless, in general appearance it seems quite close to the latter, so much so that it might almost be a transition between the two. Field study and more extensive herbarium material may show that it should be regarded as a variety or form of *I. brevicaulis*." It should be noted here that his reference to *I. hexagona* would include any or all of the varieties, but his comparison is strictly with var. *giganticaerulea*.

Viosca (1935) considered *vinicolor* to be a hybrid between *giganticaerulea* and *fulva*. He made experimental crosses between these two species in 1932 and noted that the flowers, which opened in 1934, resembled very closely those of *vinicolor*. He said, "Many hybrids not seen or described by Small and Alexander are impossible of ready classification by the use of their keys and descriptions. In one case, in a locality not visited by them, where there are numerous albinos of *giganticaerulea* and a few yellow toned variations of *fulva* in the parental stocks, a whole new series of unclassifiable hybrids has sprung up. Thus, theoretically, the number of possibilities is infinite, and one could just as well describe 500 or a thousand as a hundred species."

Foster says, "When plants like *I. vinicolor* were found with $2n = 43$, the obvious assumption was that these were hybrids between the 42- and 44-chromosome groups. That is, it was assumed that hybridization had occurred between *I. fulva* and either *I. brevicaulis* or *I. hexagona* var. *giganticaerulea*. Since *I. brevicaulis* blooms later than *I. fulva* in Louisiana, it could be eliminated as a possible parent in most cases."

Viosca continues with, "Since the flower of *foliosa* superficially resembles that of *giganticaerulea*, it is not surprising to find the stepsisters of *fulva-foliosa* and *fulva-giganticaerulea* origin resembling each other. Further evidence of even a more direct nature is that of Berry in California, who has produced hardy hybrids between *fulva* and *savannarum*, the latter being essentially like *giganticaerulea* of Louisiana and probably the same species."

Additional evidence was added to this concept recently in a study by Bobby Bennett and Michael Arnold (1989) in which they used DNA Fingerprint techniques in the comparison of *savannarum* from Florida with *giganticaerulea* from Louisiana. They stated that there were no significant differences in the banding patterns between those two irises.

In a visit into the Cameron Parish of Louisiana in April of 1992, I became convinced that *Iris giganticaerulea* had to be maintained as a distinct species; differing markedly from any population of *I. savannarum* which I had visited.

Mathew recognizes five species of iris in this series: *brevicaulis* Raf., *fulva* Ker-Gawl., *giganticaerulea* Small, *hexagona* Walt., and *nelsonii* Randolph. Of this latter species, he says, "This iris is considered, with some certainty, to have arisen by hybridization between *I. fulva* and *I. giganticaerulea*, but is now a stable entity and worthy of recognition as a species."

Kohlein says, "*Iris nelsonii* is not a true species, but probably a hybrid from *I. giganticaerulea*, *I. fulva* and *I. brevicaulis*. It is, however, different from these species. It grows true from seed, so the hybrid has stabilized itself."

Marie Caillet and Joseph Mertzweiller (1988) published "The Louisiana Iris" with the subtitle of "The History and Culture of Five Native North American Iris and their Hybrids." These are the same five iris listed by Mathew. They, in the discussion on *nelsonii*, say, "Morphological and cytological studies established *I. nelsonii* as a stable species differing significantly from allopatric populations of *I. fulva* and *I. giganticaerulea*. A relatively large number of plants in the limited *I. nelsonii* habitat were studied during the period 1953-1963. Most morphological characteristics of *I. nelsonii* were either intermediate between *I. fulva* and *I. giganticaerulea* or were closer to *I.*

giganticaerulea." Unique and different "marker" chromosomes were found to be present in the three species *I. fulva*, *I. giganticaerulea* and *I. brevicaulis* by Arnold & Bennett (1989). These constitute effective "finger-prints" for the respective species. Cytological studies showed *I. nelsonii* to contain the marker chromosomes of *I. fulva* and *I. giganticaerulea*, but not those of *I. brevicaulis*.

It is interesting to note the chromosome counts that have been made of some of the various "species" of this group:

<i>Iris albilinea</i>	2n = 43	Foster 1937
<i>Iris brevicaulis</i>	2n = 44	Simonet 1934
	2n = 42	Randolph 1958
<i>Iris chrysaecola</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris chrysophoenicia</i>	2n = 43	Foster 1937
<i>Iris citricristata</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris elephantina</i>	2n = 44	Randolph 1934
	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris flexicaulis</i>	2n = 43	Rand. & Mitra 1961
<i>Iris fourchiana</i>	2n = 43	Randolph 1934
	2n = 42, 43	Foster 1937
<i>Iris fulva</i>	2n = 42	Simonet 1932
	2n = 42	Riley 1942
	2n = 42	Rand. & Mitra 1961
<i>Iris fulvala</i>	2n = 43	Randolph 1959
<i>Iris fulvaurea</i>	2n = 42	Foster 1937
<i>Iris giganticaerulea</i>	2n = 44	Randolph 1934
	2n = 44	Riley 1942
	2n = 44	Rand. & Mitra 1961
<i>Iris hexagona</i>	2n = 44	Riley 1942
	2n = 44	Snoad 1952
<i>Iris lancipetala</i>	2n = 44	Randolph 1934
<i>Iris marplei</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris mississippiensis</i>	2n = 42	Foster 1937
<i>Iris moricolor</i>	2n = 42	Foster 1937
<i>Iris nelsonii</i>	2n = 42	Randolph 1958
	2n = 42, 43	Rand. & Mitra 1961
<i>Iris regalis</i>	2n = 44	Randolph 1934
<i>Iris salmonicolor</i>	2n = 43	Foster 1937
<i>Iris thomasii</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris vinicolor</i>	2n = 43	Randolph 1934
<i>Iris violopurpurea</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937
<i>Iris viridivinia</i>	2n = 44	Foster 1937

We have no record of the particular locality for most of the above specimens from which the counts were made, nor voucher specimens for checking proper identification. Two items should be noted: the chromosome counts for *hexagona* and *giganticaerulea* by Riley (1942) were taken from the same article in which he identified the plant as *hexagona* var. *giganticaerulea*; the count on *hexagona* by Snoad (1952) is listed as from "Northern U.S.A. and Canada", which is completely out of the range of *hexagona*. It is very doubtful if we have any actual counts for *hexagona*, but since these are recorded in the literature, I have listed them here. It is also possible that Simonet may have used a misidentified specimen in his count of *brevicaulis*, since it is the only record of a 2n = 44 for this species. (From other counts, not recorded here, Simonet gave identical counts for *virginica* and *versicolor*, both of which were later shown to be that of *versicolor*.)

Yet it is possible that *brevicaulis* could have two different chromosome numbers from two different populations, since it has such a wide distribution, from Ontario to Florida. This would make it possible that one population with 2n = 42 could cross with *giganticaerulea* with 2n = 44

and produce *flexicaulis* with $2n = 43$. Yet, in another population with $2n = 44$ it could cross with *fulva* with $2n = 42$ and produce *fulvala* with $2n = 43$. Since *flexicaulis*, a natural hybrid, is limited to an area along the gulf coast of Texas and adjacent Louisiana and 'Dorothea K. Williamson' a clone of *I. fulvala* had the *brevicaulis* parent from Wells County, Indiana, this could account for the $2n = 43$ instead of $2n = 44$ that would be expected. If the two populations of *brevicaulis* occurred in close proximity to each other, we would expect some plants of *brevicaulis* with $2n = 43$. Perhaps these were simply missed.

Kartesz and Kartesz (1978) in the "National List of Scientific Plant Names," which was compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture, recognize *brevicaulis*, *fulva*, *giganticaerulea*, *hexagona* and *vinicolor* as valid species. *I. savannarum* and *flexicaulis* are listed as varieties under *hexagona*. *I. kimbballiae* is listed in the synonymy, but not referred to any other species. *I. nelsonii* is not mentioned at all. Several of the species named by Small and Alexander (1931) having six-angled capsules are listed as synonyms of *virginica*. Although *virginica* does occur in the same general locality as the Louisianas, it is highly doubtful if it could have entered into the parentage of this group since *virginica* has a chromosome count of $2n = 70$.

A "collected form" of *giganticaerulea* has been named 'Ruth Holleyman' and was listed by Randolph (1958) as a triploid, but no actual count was given, nor any publication listed which would validate this statement. If it is triploid, we would expect the chromosome count to be $3n = 66$. A count was made by Norris (1990) which determined the chromosome number to be $2n = 43$. This would indicate that this is of hybrid origin between *giganticaerulea* and very probably *fulva*.

Mathew says, "In 1931 a great many "species" were described by J. K. Small and E. J. Alexander. However, these have since been interpreted as belonging to a small group of related species and their natural hybrids. *I. nelsonii* is also regarded as a natural hybrid but is now stabilized and occupies a separate ecological niche, so is usually treated taxonomically as a distinct species. The rest of the numerous specific names which were attached to these hybrids and variants are not listed here."

Some have been considered by various authors as variants or synonyms of one of the recognized species; others have been shown to be hybrids, and must be considered in that way; but what of the great number that are left? It is highly probable that many of them no longer exist, except as herbarium specimens. It would be a monumental task, if living plants could be located, to use some of the more sophisticated techniques which could very probably indicate where some of these should be placed, whether they could be shown as simple variations of a particular species, or if they represent variations produced by hybridization, and even some indication as to parentage.

Over the past several years the interest that has been generated in the Louisiana iris has led to the production of hundreds of new horticultural varieties, many of which are so far removed from the basic species that it is difficult to know from which species they came. Some of the recent cultivars have been determined to be tetraploids. Dr. Kevin Vaughn (1993) has made preliminary chromosome counts on these, and although he has been unable to clearly separate some of the smaller chromosomes in order to determine the exact number, he has reported $2n = 83 +$. This is sufficient to state that doubling has actually occurred.

There are rules. The ones that seem to be most relevant to our problem are: Article 2.1 "Every individual plant belongs to a . . . species." and Article H.4.1. "When all the parent taxa can be postulated or are known, a nothotaxon is circumscribed so as to include all individuals (as far as they can be recognized) derived from the crossing of the stated set of parent taxa (i.e. not only the F-1 but subsequent filial generations and also back-crosses and combinations of these). There can thus be only one correct name corresponding to a particular hybrid formula; this is the earliest legitimate name in the appropriate rank, and other names to which the same hybrid formula applies are synonyms of it."

If, as we have attempted to show, *nelsonii* is a hybrid between *fulva* and *giganticaerulea*, how long must we consider this hybrid origin? If a cross is made between *nelsonii* and either of its parents, are the offspring still *nelsonii*, or do we have a different formula? Some still contend (Kohlein, 1981) that *I. brevicaulis* also was part of the parentage of *nelsonii*; then the formula for it would probably be $((fulva \times giganticaerulea) \times brevicaulis)$. If we follow Foster, in considering *giganticaerulea* as a variety of *hexagona* (*hexagona* var. *giganticaerulea*), this formula brings all three species into a nothotaxon (hybrid species). Under these conditions, all of the hybrids of the Louisiana irises would have to be *Iris* \times *nelsonii*, since this is the first named nothospecies derived

from all three species.

On the other hand, Viosca (1935) considers Small's *vinicolor* to be a hybrid between *fulva* and *giganticaerulea*. If we consider *nelsonii* to have been derived from only these two parents, then it, too, must become a synonym or variety of *Iris X vinicolor* since this was the first name given to a hybrid of this formula. *Iris X nelsonii*, although it retains many of the characteristics of *giganticaerulea*, resembles *fulva* more than any of the other natural hybrids between these two species; and is perhaps a back-cross (or several of them) between a primary hybrid of the two species with *fulva*. Since it has become established and is so distinct from the other hybrids of this cross, I would like to recognize it as a variety of *I X vinicolor*, with this formula ((*fulva X giganticaerulea*) *X fulva*).

In much the same way, the cultivar, 'Ruth Holleyman' should also be considered as a variety of *I. X vinicolor*, which had been back-crossed to *giganticaerulea*. We are making that distinction here: *Iris X vinicolor* var. *holleymaniae* var. nov. with the formula ((*fulva X giganticaerulea*) *X giganticaerulea*)).

Edgar Anderson (1962) has stated, "The connection of introgression with disturbed habitats is indeed a common phenomenon. One of the most instructive examples involves two handsome species of *Iris*, *Iris hexagona* var. *giganticaerulea* and *Iris fulva*, which are native to the lower Mississippi delta. The first of these is a tall plant with large upright flowers of deep blue marked with white and yellow; the latter is a smaller plant with floppy flowers of bright terra-cotta red-brown. The hybrids are a motley lot, since one species has blue pigment on white background and the other red pigment on a yellow background, the hybrids include such recombinations as red over white (producing reds and pinks, or blue over yellow (producing smoky shades of gray-blue), in addition to various intermediate purples and wine-reds."

In my studies of the native species of *Iris*, especially of the eastern and southeastern parts of the United States, I have examined hundreds of herbarium specimens in all of the major herbaria of the eastern United States and in Kew Gardens in London. Annotation labels were placed on each specimen as I examined them, and their distribution was plotted on outline maps by states and counties. *Iris fulva* and *brevicaulis* were plotted on separate maps from the specimens of the various forms of *hexagona*. Although I annotated all of these as *hexagona*, I tried to keep the separation of the varieties, as outlined by Foster, in my consideration. This map shows the distribution of *hexagona* extending from the coastal plain of South Carolina south throughout the peninsula of Florida and thence westward along the Gulf Coast into Louisiana. There are, however, two distinct gaps in the distribution pattern, which correspond to Small's separation of *hexagona*, *savannarum*, and *giganticaerulea*.

Mathew has stated that only *giganticaerulea* has entered into the breeding of the modern Louisiana irises. Although Viosca reported that Berry had made hybrids between *savannarum* and *fulva* we have no record that these have entered into further breeding of the group.

Joe Mertzweiler informed me this past summer that he had plants of *hexagona* which had been collected in South Carolina and that he was also growing *giganticaerulea* in Baton Rouge. In September I took several plants of *brevicaulis*, which had been collected here in Western Missouri, to him for distribution among several hybridizers of Louisianas to be used in an attempt to add hardiness to the group. I picked up the specimens of the two other species, that he had potted for me, and planted them at our daughter's home along the shore of Lake Tallavana, west of Tallahassee, Florida. We then drove into south Florida (Sarasota County) to collect *savannarum*. This we also planted at Tallahassee and took several plants back to Baton Rouge. We now have all three forms, *hexagona*, *savannarum* and *giganticaerulea*, planted together in two different locations for comparison. We are hoping to make a detailed study that will enable us to determine the relationships among the three.

If we find that *savannarum* and *giganticaerulea* should be considered as one species, and *hexagona* separated from it, then *savannarum* must be accepted as the name of that species because of priority. If *hexagona* and *savannarum* are proven to be one, then *giganticaerulea* would be recognized as a valid species, as both Mathew and Mertzweiler have stated.

In September 1993, I had the opportunity to see mature capsules of *giganticaerulea*, *hexagona* and *savannarum*. From these observations, in addition to many others, I must recognize all three as distinct, although closely related. In cross-section: *hexagona* has three plane surfaces with only an indistinct ridge in the center, and two large rounded ribs on the alternate faces with a deep groove between them; *savannarum* has six sharp ridges almost wing-like and about equally spaced extending at the apex into a short beak; *giganticaerulea* is almost circular with six shallow grooves that produces 6 rounded lobes that are almost equal in size.

TAXONOMY

At the present time, I want to propose the following classification of the Series HEXAGONAE:

- Iris brevicaulis* Raf. (1817)
(Syn: *alabamensis* Small, *brevipes* Small, *foliosa* Mack. & Bush, *mississippiensis* Small)
Iris X cacique (Berry) comb. nov.
(*I. savannarum* X *I. fulva*)
Iris fulva Ker-Gawl. (1812)
(Syn: *cuprea* Pursh, *rubescens* Raf.)
forma *fulvaurea* (Small, 1931) comb. nov.
(Syn: *fulvaflav* (Milliken, 1932))
Iris giganticaerulea Small (1929)
forma *miraculosa* (Small) comb. nov.
(Syn: *elephantina* Small)
Iris hexagona Walt. (1788)
Iris X flexicaulis (Small) comb. nov.
(*I. brevicaulis* X *I. giganticaerulea*)
Iris X fulvala Dykes (1913)
(*I. fulva* X *I. brevicaulis*)
var. *X washingtoniana* comb. nov. Ogilvie, 1992
(*I. fulva* X *I. brevicaulis*) X *I. brevicaulis*)
var. *X choctawensis* comb. nov. Ogilvie, 1992
(*I. fulva* X *I. brevicaulis*) X *I. fulva*)
Iris savannarum Small
(Syn: *kimballiae* Small, *rivularis* Small)
forma *albispiritus* (Small) comb. nov.
Iris X vinicolor (Small) Viosca (1935)
(*I. fulva* X *I. giganticaerulea*)
(Syn: *callilopha* Small, *chrysaeola* Small, *chrysophoenicia* Small,
fouchiana Small, *viridivinea* Small, *violipurpurea* Small)
var. *X nelsonii* (Randolph, 1967) comb. nov.
(*I. fulva* X *I. giganticaerulea*) x *I. fulva*)
(Syn: *I. nelsonii* Rand.)
var. *X holleymaniae* comb. nov.
(*I. fulva* x *I. giganticaerulea*) x *I. giganticaerulea*)
Iris X louisianica nothosp. nov.
(Syn: *acleantha* Small, *albilinea* Alexander,
alticristata Small, *annicola* Alexander,
appalachee Washington, *atrocyanea* Small,
atroenantha Small, *auralata* Small,
auralineae Alexander, *bifurcata* Small
callirhodea Alexander, *cerasioides* Alex.,
chlorolopha Small, *chrysolopha* Small,
citricristata Small, *citri viola* Small,
crocinubia Alexander, *cyanantha* Alexander,
cyanochrysea Small, *dewinkeleri* Small,
ecristata Alexander, *fluvialis* Small,
fumiflora Alexander, *fumifulva* Small,
fuscaurea Small, *fuscirosea* Small,
fuscisanguinea Alexander, *fuscivenosa* Small,
gentilliana Alexander, *ianthina* Alexander,
iochroma Small, *iocyanea* Small,
iodantha Alexander, *ioleuca* Alexander
iophaeae Alexander, *lancipetala* Alexander,
lilacinaurea Alexander, *ludoviciana* Small,
marplei Alexander, *moricolor* Small,
oenantha Small. *oolopha* Alexander,
pallidirosea Alexander, *paludicola* Alex.

parvicaerulea Alexander, *parvirosea* Small,
phoenicis Small, *pseudocristata* Small,
purpurissata Small, *pyrrholopha* Alexander,
regalis Small, *regifulva* Alexander
rhodantha Alexander, *rhodochrysea* Small,
rosiflora Small, *rosilutea* Alexander,
rosipurpurea Alexander, *rubea* Alexander,
rubicunda Small, *rubrolilacina* Alexander,
salmonicolor Small, *schizolopha* Alexander,
subfulva Small, *thomosii* Small,
tyriana Small, *venulosa* Alexander,
viololutea Alexander, *violavenosa* Small,
viridis Alexander, *wherryana* Small)

This proposed new nothospecies is here considered as covering those "species" and species-hybrids involving the Iris of the HEXAGONAE which are of uncertain position or parentage. It is probable that many of the synonyms listed above should be placed in one of the other hybrid species, or as varieties of the accepted species, but since the parentage is actually uncertain, they are placed here merely as a matter of convenience.

We have only the one record of *Iris savannarum* being crossed with any other of the HEXAGONAE Series, we do not know that *X cacique* has been further involved in the hybridizing of the Louisianas.

In April, 1993, Mr. Pat O'Connor of Baton Rouge, LA, brought me a new hybrid from a cross between *I. hexagona* (from South Carolina) and a cultivar of *I. X louisianica* of undetermined parentage. We are awaiting additional information on this particular cross. Under the rules, since this was a cross involving a known hybrid, it must become a synonym of that hybrid.

In May, 1993, Dr. John Nelson of the University of South Carolina rediscovered a small colony of *I. hexagona* in Charleston County. He collected a specimen consisting of only the flower stalk and left the rest of the plant undisturbed. The specimen is on file in the herbarium at the University of South Carolina.

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DR. LOOMIS IRIS TRIAL GARDENS

Mike Moller (Colorado)

We have just finished the 5th year of the Loomis Trial Gardens. Our original goals of providing a place for hybridizers to test their irises have been achieved beyond our expectations. We hoped to attract many established hybridizers as well as new names. Some of the fairly new names that were Loomis winners in our first couple of years were Monty Byers with CONJURATION and Jim Begley with TENNISON RIDGE. Both of these irises have gone on to win AIS awards. Each year since, I've received irises from hybridizers that many people have never heard of, outside of their home region. Many of these hybridizers are going to be established leaders of hybridizing in the near future. They have shown a dedication to producing good garden irises. Just some of these future stars are: Jim Hedgecock, Ed Roberts, Chris Vizvarie, Riley Probst, Dave Miller, Robert Euer, James Allen, Larry Ransom, Virginia Messick, Carole Vossen, Thom Ericson, Nancy Bartlett, and Darlene Pinegar.

The Loomis Garden tests irises over a three-year period. In this report we will review the top irises in each class. All irises are point scored according to The American Iris Society's Judges' Handbook. The method used to score with the Handbook will show that any score of 60 or above is a good iris. Any iris that tops its class and scores 80 or above will win a Loomis Award. The number of awards presented will vary due to this requirement. Last year we had 8 winners, this year 5. This year's Loomis Award winners consisted of two seedlings and three named varieties that have received acclaim from The American Iris Society.

3-Year Classes

The 3-year test period in this garden produces some very interesting results. The more we test irises, the more I get the feeling that today's irises should always be divided after 2 years. The irises in this class were outstanding last year, but many of them bloomed out. Our Top 3-Year TB, with a score of 80 points, was a seedling by Rogers, F638-P, a very nice plicata with 6 bloomstalks and 9 buds per stalk. This iris scored "0" points in its first year and looked like we had lost it. Its third-year comeback is very similar to a former Loomis winner, LACE ARTISTRY by Terry Aitken. That iris scored "1" point in its first year. Other top scoring 3-year TB's were MOMENTUM (77) by Mary Dunn, a nice plicata with 11 buds per stalk. Jim Hedgecock had two seedlings to each score 75: 84-25-4 and 84-72-6. Six irises scored 70 points, Knudtson's 85-14-R6, Keppel's BEGUINE, Hedgecock's C-82-1-H and LAVENDER TROUBADOUR, Mallory's seedling LLSCH, and Carr's TRIBUNE.

The 3-year BB class proved to be the best display in the 3-year area. This year's Loomis winner was FAUX PAS (83) by Keith Keppel. This iris was outstanding with 32 fans, 11 bloomstalks and 8 buds per stalk. Everything about this iris was in proportion for the class. Runner-up was last year's Loomis winner, CAIROLADY (79) by Ray Lyons. This iris had 37 fans, 14 bloomstalks and 7 buds per stalk. Third place went to RED ROOSTER (76) by Jack Durrance. It is a very fine red border iris. SWEETIE GIRL (71) was fourth in the class.

3-year IB's were represented by APRIL FOG (72) and BROADWAY BABY (71). APRIL FOG, by Niswonger, is an outstanding garden iris with a clump so large that it was just measured as 40+ fans. BROADWAY BABY by Joe Gatty displayed nice coloration and form for the class. The 3-year SDB class was topped by last year's Loomis winner VELVET HAMMER (79) by Chris Vizvarie. A very consistent performer, it scored 76, 83, and 79 during its 3-year test. This iris has very wide, ruffled, flared falls and is a welcome addition to the class. Other top-scoring SDB's were WELL SUITED (75) by Paul Black, BABY BOOM (73) by Monty Byers, SLAP BANG (71) and KIWI SLICES (70) by Dave Niswonger.

The 3-year MTB class only had one entry, but it was outstanding. PRETTY QUIRKY (72) by Riley Probst. This iris had 40+ fans, 18 bloomstalks, with 6 buds per stalk. It met all the requirements of this class when it comes to proportion. The 3-year JA class was a real test of these irises. Anna Mae Miller sent 5 JA's to test in this area that is not really known for JA's. The top in this class was ROSE FRAPPE. This iris was as consistent as any iris in the garden, scoring 78, 77, 76 over the test period. This year it displayed 25 fans, with 6 bloomstalks. Anna Mae Miller also sent Siberians to test in the garden and topped this 3-year class with a seedling 85-17-18. This yellow Siberian scored an 84 to win a Loomis Award for the second year. This is the only iris to win two Loomis awards. This year's display had 40+ fans, 25 bloomstalks, with 4 buds per stalk. Runner-up in this class was SHAKER'S PRAYER (74) by Carol Warner. Siberians do well in our climate, and I hope that Anna Mae Miller and other Siberian hybridizers will continue to test their irises here.

2-Year Classes

The 2-year TB class had many fine irises. The Loomis Award was won by top scorer TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN (83) by Sterling Innerest. This is a very

distinctive plicata with outstanding plant habits. It displayed 20 fans with 9 bloomstalks. Right behind our winner was GRAPE CHARM (82) and HOT TO TROT (82). GRAPE CHARM, by Stan Dexter, is a dark purple-violet with light diamond dusting. The leaves on the plant were huge. HOT TO TROT, by Jim McWhirter, is a red-golden plicata with a large clump of 31 fans and 7 bloomstalks. Scoring 81 points was a seedling by Robert Euer NSMF-1. A good violet-blue, it displayed a clump of 29 fans and 9 stalks with 9 buds. Three irises scored 80 points; #875 by Roberts, MEGAN ELIZABETH by Brown, and NEIL DIAMOND by Nelson. MARK ALLEN, by Allen, scored a 78. CONTRITE, by Innerst, scored a 77 and was very popular with visitors to the garden. PACIFIC OVERTURES (76), introduced by Denny/McWhirter, provided a large flower on a large clump. CHEROKEE NATION (73), by Hedgecock, was a very nice golden brown. B86-3-10, by Beeman, scored 71 points. EWXBL-1 by Ransom, and STARS AND STRIPES, by Byers, each scored a 70. STARS AND STRIPES had 12 buds per bloomstalk.

The 2-year IB class was topped by Dave Niswonger's ORANGE PETALS (76). This iris has outstanding color, making it very distinctive. CALLING CARD (74) by Messick has very light coloring to go with outstanding plant habits. COME SEE (73), by Ensminger, is a nice blue-white plicata and FREELY GIVEN (73), by Black, shows outstanding plant habits. Another iris that looks to be a good garden iris is a seedling G13-1 (72) by Monty Byers. The 2-year SDB class was dominated by many irises due to be introduced by Ensminger. Top scorer was a tie between 288-4 and 84-6, both scoring a 76. Like many Ensminger irises the color combinations must be seen to be believed. SERENITY PRAYER, by Perry Dyer, scored a 75 and displayed the largest clump in the class. WHAT AGAIN (74), by Ensminger, also provided a large clump with outstanding growth. Three other Ensminger iris seedlings 488-4 (72), 88-14 (71), and 88-9 (70) put on a good show. Monty Byers' STINGER (71) scored well and proved to be very distinctive with horns.

The 2-year BB class was topped by a seedling of Robert Euer CMF-3 (72). This iris had nice coloring and size for the class, but also displayed outstanding show branching. UH HUH (70), by Ensminger, was second. The 2-year Aril class was dominated by 5 irises from Carol Vossen. Seedling 224.1 was tops with 77 points. This plant had 23 fans and 4 stalks, with very nice foliage. Seedling 152.1 (74) displayed a nice yellow flower with near black signal. Also scoring a 74 was seedling 83.1. Seedling V84J.1 scored 72 and seedling 136.3 scored a (70). Carol has produced some very nice seedlings.

1-Year Classes

The 1-year TB class was topped by SLEEPWALK (79) introduced by Roger Nelson. This iris displayed 1 bloomstalk with 5 fans and 10 buds. A very colorful iris is a seedling by Paul Black, 90U20 (78). An Allen seedling KV1 (75) was very impressive with large flowers and perfect show branching. Another perfectly branched iris was a seedling from Franklin Carr, 87-89 CHAR (72).

DIFFERENT APPROACH (72), by Innerst, scored well with an outstanding

flower with good color and form. A Lyons' seedling, LY85-19-E (71), scored well also, displaying a nice pink coloration with good plant habits. Five irises scored 70 points, BE A DREAM by Niswonger, CYCWYB-1 by Moller, SPECC6-2 by Euer, TIME TRAVELER by Pinegar, and TOOTSIE by Roger Nelson. TIME TRAVELER was distinctive with TUT'S GOLD coloring, but with 2½ inch gold horns. CYCWYB-1 with 8 fans had the largest clump of a 1-year plant. This class also produced some fall bloomstalks from August to October. The fall bloomers were 9V8 by Bartlett and T6-3-2 by Pinegar. The 1-year MTB class was topped by Clarence Mahan's introduction REMINISCENCE (67). Very good proportion and plant habits with this iris.

The 1-year BB class was topped by a seedling by Zurbrigg KK5-1-1, scoring 75 points. This iris showed outstanding color and form with good plant habits. HH22-1-1, an iris recently registered as JOAN'S PLEASURE did not bloom in the spring but produced 2 bloomstalks starting August 1. It has also put up a stalk in early October. This iris has very nice form and substance. The 1-year IB class did not have an iris that bloomed in the spring. During the late summer and fall a Zurbrigg seedling LL24#1 put up very nice stalks with well-formed yellow flowers. We have two rhizomes of this iris, and both bloomed.

The 1-year SDB class produced our only Loomis winner in the 1-year classes. BEDFORD LILAC, by Bennett Jones, scored an 80 with good color, form, and plant habits. It is easy to see why this new iris is already popular in The American Iris Society. Bennett Jones also took second with ORANGE DAZZLER (70), a very bright orange-colored iris. The 1-year Arilbred class was topped by an ARMED by Thom Ericson. Seedling 89GD-6, of which we have 2 plants, scored 66 and 65 points. One plant had 16 fans, and the other had 14 fans making each the largest clump of 1-year plants in the garden. They both would have scored higher, but the bloom stalks were somewhat low and down into the fans.

In past years the full results of point scoring every iris in the garden were only distributed to hybridizers who participated in the garden testing. I polled the hybridizers as to their feelings about allowing other AIS members to have a copy of the yearly test. Over 90% felt this was a good idea, so we will offer the report at a cost of \$4.00 per copy. Make check out to Elmoir Iris Society. Send orders to Mike Moller, 3455 Vallejo Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. This report consists of a raw data, listing exactly what score each iris received in each individual category. The report should be used along with the AIS Judges' Handbook. This report should NOT be used by judges to vote the ballot. We all know that many conditions can cause an iris to perform well in some places and die out in others. Breakdown of this data can help one find what flowers have good garden plant habits, good flowers, or great branching.

Every hybridizer is invited to participate in the garden testing. Iris seedlings or named varieties are accepted. Send 1 rhizome of each selected variety. There is no limit as to the number of irises one can test. The irises will be tested over a three-year period and point scored each year by judges of The American Iris Society. Contributors will receive a report in July listing all irises in the garden. Write or call, I'll be glad to help you with any questions.

DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins (Georgia)

We have reviewed all of the types of designs and to help incorporate these designs in flower shows, the preparation of the schedule sets the stage and spells out the rules. The entire planning process for putting on an iris show is covered in Section C of the AIS Handbook for Judges and Show Officials. It explains why a club should have an AIS show and how to plan a show. This chapter lists specific requirements and also has guidelines that can be adapted for the needs of specific clubs. Also listed are suggested committee chairmen and duties. Read this chapter carefully as you plan your show, and it may help you avoid a mistake.

The AIS Handbook requires that the time frame for the schedule to be turned in for approval to the Chairman of the AIS Exhibitions Committee is 2 months. The assumption is that the club has decided to have a show, has the finances available, has selected a General Chairman and a Schedule Chairman has been named. In a "perfect world" the most organized clubs will do all of this 1 year in advance, some will take 9 months and others will go right to the wire to get ready. With the longer time frame the preparation of the schedule can be a process with everyone having input. Typing up the draft doesn't put pressure on the typist, and any mistakes can be easily caught and changed. It makes the job of review by the Exhibitions Committee Chairman easier and insures that the schedule will be ready in time. The schedule should be printed and mailed to the judges in a respectable length of time for their review (about two weeks in advance of the show date is good).

The AIS Judges' Handbook provides the steps to be followed for a schedule on pages C-1 and C-2. All of the points that must be covered by a schedule are listed there and easy to check off as they are accomplished. The schedule is the law of the show with information on every aspect of the show included. The convenience of having all of this information readily available will pay off time and time again. It will also set up this schedule to be followed year after year, with only minor updates and changing the themes, colors, etc. being necessary.

When deciding the divisions to have in a flower show (horticulture is a "given") note that the AIS Handbook says: "Each schedule should also provide divisions for seedlings, educational exhibits, commercial exhibits and artistic exhibits." Exhibiting seedlings encourages hybridizing and gives one a chance to evaluate the new selections (and vote if you are a judge).

Educational and commercial exhibits are the icing on the cake and give the show some depth and educational value. Artistic exhibits are a very valuable tool to encourage and promote irises and their use inside the home, as well as outside. With all of these divisions, whether they be seedlings, educational, commercial, horticultural or artistic, the full scope of the iris world is presented. Congratulations to those who present all aspects of a show, and "full steam ahead" to all of you who wish to cover these areas and are slowly adding more and more to your shows. The January 1992 Show Report listed 178 AIS iris shows with 129 artistic divisions. Artistic divisions have been steadily increasing over the years and hopefully will be included in almost all shows. There were 31 shows with Educational Exhibits and 6 had commercial exhibits (one of these was personally

judged, and it was such a bonus to the show, to AIS, and the grower was rewarded many times over for the effort).

If there was a previous show, and it is appropriate, use this schedule and change the class titles so they match the theme of the show. Use the same staging if the horticulture division will stay the same. Delete any classes for a type of iris never in bloom at the time of your show, and if you are lucky even some of the chairmen, addresses and phone numbers will not have changed. Some will ask, "Why put the addresses, etc. in a schedule." Anyone entering the show might need to contact one of the committee chairmen, judges writing thank you notes need addresses, a person trying to get directions to the show will need to call a chairman, and on and on. There may be some security reasons why a person would not want this personal information in the schedule, so it is advised that permission be secured at the time of asking people to serve in a committee capacity.

A color theme for a show can add to the overall effect and is easy to incorporate by using signage trimmed in the selected colors (See Picture 1), publish the schedule in those colors and use the colors for ribbons to divide the horticulture or design classes. If an Educational or Commercial exhibit is included, ask the exhibitor to include the chosen theme and colors somewhere, if possible, to unify the show.

Listed below are some themes that might be used for design. (It is more interesting to name the classes but not necessary.)

Movies from the Fifties: "The Thing" or "Creature From the Black Lagoon" could be great creative design titles. "A Summer Place," could be for traditional all fresh plant material.

How about some titles like "Encounter of the Third Kind" for a creative fresh and dried design.

Songs: "Sound of Music," "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," "Memories," etc. Also a selection of tunes from the 30s ("The Object of My Affection," "Lovely to Look At," "I Only Have Eyes for You") and the 40s ("Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "As Time Goes By"), etc.

Some other themes recently used are "Up, Up and Away," "The Show Goes On" with show business tunes, "Windows On the World" with sub-titles like "An American Celebration," "Fiesta," "Islands In The Sun," "On Safari." Others could be "Fantasia" with sub-titles such as "My Secret Garden," "The Ancient Quest for Gold" and "Enchanted Castles." An easy theme to follow is "Holidays and Observances" such as "America The Beautiful," "Memorial Day," "4th of July," and "Labor Day."

The pictures of designs are staging and class titles taken from recent shows (iris or otherwise) that will give a club some ideas of how to stage. The schedule must spell out the exact size requirements and description of the area where a design is to be placed.

The three groups of designs in Picture 2 are described by the schedule as follows:

(Far left) Free hanging designs, incorporating space, in which there may be motion. Designs are staged at eye level or above, hung from a hook provided in the black rectangular frame, measuring 47" high and 31½" wide. Only the means of suspension touches the frame. Accessories permitted within the design. Frames are provided by show committee, staged on tables, height of 28", placed in front of off-white wall. Plant material may extend beyond the frame.

(Middle) Designs staged on white round pedestals, provided by show committee, measuring 15" diameter with height of 30", placed in front of off-white wall. Pedestal may be draped by the exhibitor. (Note: one exhibitor did drape the pedestal) Plant material may extend beyond or below perimeter of the pedestals.

(Far right) Designs staged on open white pedestals, measuring 11" square with 35½" height, placed in front of off-white wall. Pedestal, provided by show committee, may be draped by the exhibitor. Plant material may extend beyond or below the perimeter of the pedestal.

Picture 3 shows designs in niches with the following description in the schedule: "Designs staged in off-white niches 40" high by 32" wide by 18" deep, provided by the show committee. Background and underlay permitted if provided by exhibitor.

The classes thoroughly described what the schedule writer wanted for designs. Yours may not be this descriptive, but use these as a guide to increase information for the designer.

When writing the schedule, also keep in mind the staging available for designs (coordinate this with the Staging Chairman), and the expense involved. It is very important to list who provides the backgrounds, pedestals, tables, etc. Sizes must be explicitly listed, and if changes have to be made at the last minute, the exhibitors all have to be notified (this is reason enough for careful planning).

Now that all of the information is ready, have the schedule typed. "Easier said than done," you say? The marvelous world of the computer is the best way to go as changes and corrections can easily be made. Think of the future and have someone set this up, keep the diskette, and the next year the only changes will be minor ones. The fancy schedules will use something like Desktop Publishing to set up the text, but the schedule can easily be designed for 8½ x 11 pages and will probably be less expensive to duplicate. Check out all of the possibilities for producing an effective schedule while controlling the cost of publication. This is usually one of the major expenses for a flower show. If design is being done by a local garden club, they may share in the expense, or if the show is located in a mall, some help with the publication may be provided by the mall administration.

NOTE TO ALL READERS: It would be beneficial to all of our *AIS Bulletin* subscribers to see the top designs in your shows. Send me your show schedule and pictures of top winning designs with the class title indicated in the schedule, and WHO did the design (get their permission for reprint). The design should be a 4 x 6 or 3 x 5 photo, and clearly focused. Perhaps they will appear in future issues as space allows. Sorry, pictures cannot be returned.

Send photos, questions or comments to: Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512.

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Picture 1



Picture 3



Picture 2

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1994 INTRODUCTIONS

CHARMED (M. Dunn) Charming pastel orchid blend. Ivory centered, broad, ruffled flowers, deeper orchid on falls. Heavy substance with many flowers on a well-branched stem. Midseason 38". Pina Colada X Top Gun. \$35.00

GRAPHIQUE (M. Dunn) Deep violet and white plicata. Round, very clean white petals. Standards are white and widely banded deep violet. Round, ruffled white falls with tiny edge of deep violet plicata markings. No center stripe. Matching beards. Well-branched with lots of bloom. Mid-season 36". (Going My Way x Midway) X Momentum. \$35.00

HONORARIUM (B. Dunn) Bright pastel bicolor. Lilac standards and white falls with a lilac cast, more so upon opening. Wide, overlapping falls. Ruffled and showy with matching beard tips. Midseason 37". (Trident x High Falutin) X Cruzin. \$35.00

NAVY BLUES (B. Dunn) Outstanding deep navy blue-black self. Ruffled, pleated and flaring with heavy substance. What more can I say? Dark velvety texture, matching beards. Great branching. It blooms here in the cool. Early to midseason 37". Allstar X Busy Being Blue. \$35.00

NEW ORDER (M. Dunn) New type of plicata, maybe. Ivory-cream standards faintly shaded lilac. Wide, ruffled, ivory falls with pastel lilac plicata edge and lilac plicata markings at beard area. Bright golden styles inside the ivory standards. Well-branched with good substance and many open flowers. A quiet one. Midseason 36". Go Around X Fiction. \$35.00

QUEEN BEE (M. Dunn) BB 22" Midseason. Looks like a kissin' cousin to Pandora's Purple. Different! It is a splashy-speckled and stained type of fancy purple-violet with white area at the beards. Ruffled and showy flowers. Well-branched and cute. Premonition sib X Fancy Face. .. \$20.00

Please order from this ad. Add \$4.00 for shipping. California residents add the appropriate sales tax. Previous introductions are also available. Ask for price list. Shipping July through September 5.

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A — Hairpin Style Markers	30 For \$12.60
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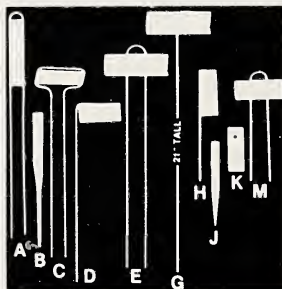
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Paw Paw, Michigan 49079-0093

Quantity Prices Available

Postage Prepaid



BEARDED IRISES from LYNN & PETER MARKHAM

61 Upland Avenue—P.O. Box 154
Lunenburg, Massachusetts 01462

Tel. (508) 582-6445

Featuring Border Bearded on purpose - and other nice things!

When Sdlg. #85-2A3, nicknamed “the Secret Weapon plant”, first bloomed in 1989, the excitement wasn’t about its commercial potential, but about its promise as a breeder. Inbred on **Angel Feathers** with just a touch of *I. aphylla* and *I. reichenbachii* to alter the formula, it incorporated all of the assets we had hoped to gain from the species sources without losing the “finish” of the Angel Feathers line. Small-scale blossoms with tilting form and subtle color harmony appeared on gracefully branched stalks arising from compact clumps of narrow foliage, proving that short need not equal dumpy! As a bonus, it was loaded with pollen, unlike many of the Feathers progeny. And so for the last several years, “Weapon” has been spread about in our garden and liberally distributed to other BB breeders to explore its potential. The pollen, it seems, will set seed on a doorknob. As a pod parent, it is reluctant with its near relatives but quite fertile in outcrosses and produces copious viable seed. As for the results, it has proved a consistent breeder not only for graceful “smalls”, but for the whole gamut of color and pattern including, much to our surprise, plicatas! The “race of midgets” we have long worked to create here is taking shape, thanks in large measure to “the Weapon plant”.

Well in 1992, we began to realize that our pet breeding tool was also consistently pleasing us as a garden subject (funny how hybridizers can overlook a small detail like that in the excitement of checking out the progeny!) and decided to register it. It could hardly have its name changed at that late date, so it’s nice that **Secret Weapon** was available. Given the advance distribution of the plant, stock is now barely sufficient but we didn’t want to hold back any longer, so here it is:

SECRET WEAPON

(L. Markham 1994)—BB—24-27”—EM. Sdlg. #85-2A3. Angel Feathers X 7783-1A: (Angel Feathers x Warburton 20KL-3: ((Buttrick blue sdlg. x (Progenitor x Serene Valley)) x (Sunfrost x (Summit x *I. aphylla* Polonica))))). Standards pale violet-blue (Munsell 10PB 8/4) with slightly greenish midribs and stained deeper violet-blue inside the bases; falls a paler shade of the standard color with slight bluish texture-veining; beards deep gold in the throat, blending to 1/4” pale violet-blue tips. The subtle colors are most distinct at dawn and dusk, lighter in intense sunlight, but they are non-fading. Petals are wide, rounded and lightly ruffled; standards nearly closed, falls arched and flaring, slightly up-turned at the lower edges. Slim stalks bear three and occasionally four branches, with 6 to 8 buds. There is a tendency to sequential stalks which extend the bloom season on established clumps. The plant will at times produce a stalk slightly taller than 27”, but the graceful proportions of plant, stalk and flower are at all times true BB! HC 1993. . . . \$25.00

TERMS: Cash with order. Please add \$3.00 per order for U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail shipment, or \$5.00 for UPS Second Day Air.

PREVIOUS INTRODUCTIONS: List available upon request



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If you're a bit of a gambler at heart....
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Arilbred Sampler

Arilbreds come in a wide variety of exotic patterns and colors, as well as forms and sizes. Each sampler will consist of labeled, named varieties, and (unless you request otherwise) will include at least one variety from each of the following groups: near-arils, halfbreds, quarterbreds. Send any amount (\$15, \$30, or more), and we'll select iris that have a catalog value of at least three times that amount. Please add \$3.00 for shipping.

Or send \$1.00 for Catalog, refundable on first order.

(Sorry, no shipments to California.)

P.O. Box 112

Fairacres, NM 88033

MELROSE GARDENS

Ben R. Hager

Sidney P. DuBose

309 Best Road South

Stockton, CA 95215

This is our FINAL FAREWELL. No more *farewell* sales lists will be forthcoming—only OUR THANKS and FULL GRATITUDE TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE MADE THE PAST 37 YEARS HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS FOR US. We do hope we have been lucky enough to bring a bit of IRIS SUNSHINE into YOUR LIVES as well. Again, and again and again—**THANK YOU!**

We won't be selling irises anymore, exactly, but no one can keep us out of the seedling patch so long as there is life stirring in our veins. And, yet again, we are lucky . . .

COOLEY'S GARDENS has agreed to introduce our Tall Bearded and Reblooming irises starting in 1995. How lucky can we get?

ADAMGROVE GARDENS is introducing and listing our Dwarf and Median varieties. See their Commercial Directory ad in this *Bulletin*.

CORDON BLEU FARMS is introducing and listing our Spuria irises and Daylilies. Send \$1.00 for a color catalog to P.O. Box 2017, San Marcos, CA 92079-2017.

MESSICK GARDEN
 200 Pine Creek Road
 Walnut Creek, CA 94598



INTRODUCTIONS
 by
Virginia Messick

SWING AND SWAY (Messick '94) TB, 37", M87-7: (Ron x Winterscape) X (Pacific Mist sdlg. x Bubbling Over). Dancing along comes this flurry of pale blue ruffles. Flowers are almost white with blue-violet highlights and beards tipped blue. Flaring form, ample ruffles and rapid increaser. Very floriferous, usually opens three perfectly placed flowers at a time, making it great for the show bench. (Credit to Sammy Kaye for name).

..... \$30.00

MANOR BORN (Messick '94) TB, 38", M87-26: Winterscape X Nordic Prince. Continuing on with Winterscape breeding came this refined "high-born" gal dressed in lavender. Most notable is the outstanding form with deep scallops and ruffles topped with lace. Bright lavender-rose self in a neglected color class. Lighter beards. Good substance, strong stalks and a long bloom period.

..... \$30.00

VOLTAGE ('93) TB. Shocking orange. Queen of Show in '93. \$20.00

ART NOUVEAU ('92) TB. Deep old rose. EC '91. \$15.00

ALADDIN'S FLAME ('93) SDB, 14". Brass, deep blue beards. \$7.50

RUSTY NAIL ('93) SDB, 11". Gold standards, rusty brown falls. \$7.50

Generous Extras. Add \$3.00 for shipping.

MINIATURE TALLS FROM OHIO GARDENS

Featuring Miniature Tall Bearded Iris introductions for 1994 of **Mary Louise Dunderman** and **W. Terry Varner**.

SKY BEAUTY (Dunderman '94) Sdlg. EE28. MTB 23" (58 cm).

Lightly ruffled light blue plicata on white ground. Signals are white to light blue. Beards are white to yellow. Full flower.

..... \$15.00

SARA'S LOVE (Varner '94) Sdlg. S-160-DG. MTB 22" M. Pure sparkling white with excellent form. Standards touch, slightly ruffled. Wide, clean hafts. White signals with light lemon beards, 8-9 buds. Baby Bibs X 85-DG-46, cool white seedling with tint of blue

..... \$15.00

Add \$3.00 postage and handling when ordering from this ad.

MTB and species Speciality Catalog—\$1.00

OHIO GARDENS

102 Laramie Road

Marietta, Ohio 45750

MILLER'S MANOR GARDENS 1994 INTRODUCTIONS



Roger & Lynda Miller
Phone 219-597-7403
219-433-5660

3167 E. U.S. 224
Ossian, IN 46777

BITTERSWEET JOY (L. & R. Miller) TB, 34", M. Semi-flaring, ruffled medium orange with soft golden glow around tangerine beards. Good strong grower, outstanding branching, 3 branches and one spur yielding 9-12 buds. 4789A: Can't Elope X (Sultan's Palace x Marmalade). \$35.00

GOLDEN LOCKS (L. & R. Miller) TB, 29", E-M. Goldilocks would have envied the brilliant deep canary yellow standards with deeper canary falls washed with cream below the beards, intensifying again to yellow at the edges. Deep yellow beards blend into this mass of sunshine on the flaring falls. 1188D: At Dawn X Blazing Light. \$35.00

HURRIN' HOOSIER (L. & R. Miller) TB, 33", M. Only a true IU fan can appreciate this name. It had to go on a red iris—maroon red to be precise with old gold beards. Very flaring and ruffled blossoms that don't sunburn. Vigorous grower with great foliage. 12387B: 5384: (Spartan x unknown) X Lady Friend. \$35.00

MISTY LADY (G. Sides) TB, 32", M (RE in Oct. on the West Coast). A graceful mysterious lady adorned with soft lavender-pink standards and falls of blue-violet. Petals are ruffled and lightly laced, trimmed with blue-violet beards tipped yellow. Outstanding performer at several conventions. Vigorous grower. D32-F20B: (Corn Harvest x Vanity) X Graduation. \$35.00

TUFF E NUFF (L. & R. Miller) SDB, 9", M. A true survivor of too much rain and the blades of a Troybilt tiller. Domed, light blue standards sit proudly atop flaring, round violet falls accented with plum shoulders. Blue beards are tipped yellow. 3 buds. 2587A: Crispin X 831B: (Petite Polka x unknown). \$12.50

WIDOW'S VEIL (L. & R. Miller) SDB, 11", E. Slightly open red-violet standards let you see the soft yellow style arms with purple ribs. Round, flaring, ruffled falls are red-violet with a black spot that rays out from the bushy dark violet beards. One branch, 3 buds. 100291A: Dark Vader X Bantam. . . . \$12.50

1993 L. Miller Introductions

WENCH (TB) S. pink; F. dark red-violet, tangerine beards \$25.00

FRUIT LOOPS (SDB) Light apricot-orange, plum purple spots \$9.00

SEA MONSTER (SDB) S. sky blue; F. olive green, blue beards \$9.00

SCRUPLES (MDB) Clear light blue-blue violet \$7.00

*Add \$3.00 handling when ordering from this ad.
Send \$1.00 (deductible from first order) for descriptive catalog.*

MISTY HILL FARMS



WELCOME THE NEW YEAR
WITH 5 NEW INTRODUCTIONS
HYBRIDIZED BY MONTY BYERS.

MOONSHINE GARDENS

ALL AFLUTTER (M. Byers by Dickey '94). Tall bearded, 36", medium, space ager. (G63-1) (Conjuration x Mesmerizer) Beautiful, large flowered brilliant bright white self. Red orange beards with large, long, very pale blue flounces turning up at the ends as if the flower will flutter away with the butterflies. This beautiful flower is not only beautiful to see but also has a wonderful light, sweet fragrance. \$35.00

MONTY'S SWEET BLUE (M. Byers by Dickey '94) Tall bearded, 36", medium, spaceager. (G60-1) (Scented Bubbles x Starship). Wonderful, large flowered dark blue-violet self. Yellow beards tipped light blue with huge dark blue violet flounces or horns. This is the seedling that won best fragrance in Florence, Italy, spring '93. If you enjoy the fragrance of iris as well as the sheer beauty, this belongs in your 5 collection. \$35.00

PLATINUM (M. Byers by Dickey '94) Tall bearded, 30", early, RE (G39-106) (Eternal Bliss x Pacific Tide) Silver white self with silver veining on falls; white beards, yellow in the throat. This incredible white continues the tradition of outstanding reblooming whites that Monty had introduced. Once you see this flower you will understand why it has earned its precious metal name. \$35.00

WAVES OF GRAIN (M. Byers by Dickey '94) Tall bearded, 36", medium, RE, (F51-102) (Grace Thomas x C71-1) S. golden mid-yellow; F. golden yellow with darker golden yellow veining at hafts; deep golden yellow beards. Very vigorous grower and a very willing early reblooming yellow that will stand out in your garden. \$35.00

STINGER (M. Byers, '94) SDB, 13", medium, SA, (G18-2) (Muchacha x Egyptian) S. maize yellow with faint light violet speckling in center; F. maize yellow hafts to blended outer rim around inner lower half-halo of violet stitching, white center ground; burnt yellow-orange beards, deep purple horns. Even though this was planted at the back of our display garden and a SDB among giants, it was a favorite with everyone. \$15.00

FREE CATALOG 5080 W. Soda Rock Ln., Healdsburg, CA 95448

RAINBOW'S END GARDEN

1994 Introductions of Gerald Richardson

AUNT LUCY—TB 33" M. Standards are heavily flushed blue-violet, fading to pale lavender edges; falls are pale lavender flushed violet at bronze-tipped violet beards. Nicely ruffled and fluted. 86-9-2: (Cosmic Dance X Olympiad). \$25.00

INFERNAL FIRE—TB 32" M. A novelty iris. Buff-gold heavily and erratically striped and splashed wine red; golden orange beards. Its exotic pattern comes from an arilbred variegated seedling. 89-61-1: (77-56-1 x Broadway). \$25.00

LA MER—TB 37" E-M. The reflection of clouds on a calm blue sea. Standards are pale blue-white; falls are light blue fading to pale blue rim. Large, well-formed blossoms. 87-22-5: (Olympiad X Royal Crusader). \$25.00

NORA EILEEN—TB 39" M. Sparkling wine- red violet blend with a hint of blue at the blue-violet beards. Exquisite form and branching. 88-97-1: ((Master Touch x 85-35-1) X Ever After). \$25.00

Bonus iris with each order!

DON—TB 40" M. Rosy magenta with faint blue glow at lavender-rose beards. 86-21-1: (Lorilee x 79-59-2). \$10.00

JIM—TB 38" M. Blue-white with lavender-blue style arms, faint plic markings at the hafts. 87-35-5: ((Victoria Falls x Mary Frances) X He-Man Blues). \$10.00

1992 and 1993 introductions still available. Inquire for prices.

Add \$3.00 to each order for shipping and handling.

Gerald L. Richardson, 1109 Pine St., Richland, WA 99352

WALTER A. MOORES

1912 Williams Road

Starkville, MS 39759

1994 Reblooming Introduction

GRAPE REPRISE—TB 34" EM & RE (Sept. in MS). Dark red-violet self with lighter violet beards. Lightly ruffled with tightly swirled standards and arching falls. Multiple, well-branched rebloom stalks starting in mid-September well in advance of frost. Pronounced grape fragrance. Earl of Essex X Feed Back. \$25.00

Extras are my previous introductions of Aril Reverie, Off Broadway, Pink Reprise, Summer Surf or Violet Reprise. See April '93 Bulletin ad for descriptions.

Add \$3.50 for Priority Mail

Introducing for 1994

ELLA LeCLAIR (Bryce Williamson). An early flowering variety with four and five branches and two and three buds per socket. This soft pink is blended with peach at the midribs and hafts and there is a creamy-pink area in the falls. Very ruffled and a very long season of bloom. From the exciting cross of Armistice X Fan Club. \$35.00

HAVENDANCE (Ken Mohr). Medium chicory-blue standards are tinted in softest lavender; falls slightly darker with an infusion of dark chicory-blue at the hafts and down the center of the falls. With nice branching and bud count, we have been pleased with this different neglecta that will remind many of Lineup. \$35.00

MONOLOGUE (Bryce Williamson). This seductive neglecta-plicata has softest lavender-blue standards, stitched with faint, slightly deeper colored plicata markings; cream-white falls are edged in medium-to-dark plicata edge of lavender-blue. Very rounded form, very ruffled, and very elegant, but tightly branched. Centre Court X Simile. . . . \$35.00

MOVIE MAGIC (Ken Mohr). The latest from Ken in a near pure blue coloring. The closed standards and rounded falls are both nicely ruffled. This medium azure blue is slightly silvered in the falls, thus the name, and we knew that this was destined for introduction from its first bloom. \$35.00

WAKE-UP DIANNE (Ken Mohr). This full cadmium yellow self jolts the Tall Bearded iris season fantasy to reality since it is one of the first irises to flower. Thanks to wonderful branching and bud count, it is still going strong at mid season. A wonderful, sunfast coloring and the form is wide, full, and very ruffled. Catalyst X Speculator. \$35.00

Send \$1.00 for black and white catalogue. Tall Bearded only this year (including Rebloomers and Space Age).

Pacific Coast Hybridizers

Post Office Box 972

Campbell, California 95009-0972

Fort Iris Gardens

2157 Hoxie

Richland, Washington 99352

I BE PINK (Fort '94) \$15.00

This is the cleanest and pinkest Intermediate we have seen that is ruffled with flaring falls and 5 to 7 buds on show stalks. The standards are a taffeta pink and the falls are an old rose fading to taffeta pink at the edge. The beards are a complimentary melon-rose in color.

Order from this ad. Please add \$3.00 for shipping and handling.

Price List of previous introductions upon request.

ED ROBERTS

3887 Ninevah Road

Frankfort, KY 40601

MOST STUNNING—TB 32" M. S. light lavender with a touch of yellow at the base. F. red with lighter edge. Yellow beards. This is a stunning iris. Sdlg. 921: Stunning X Lilac Wine. . . . \$35.00

SILENT FORCE—TB 34" M. This is indeed a silent force with irresistible charm. A luscious raspberry-rose color touched brown on each side of the yellow beards. The crinkling, corrugated ruffling and lacing make this an outstanding flower. Good substance and branching. Sdlg. 927: Visual Arts X Blushing Pink. EC 1993. . . . \$35.00

STARDUST ROAD—TB 38" M. Mear words cannot do justice to this fine iris. S. are chartreuse, while the falls are delicate lilac edged chartreuse. Deep chartreuse hafts; gold beards. Heavy substance, great branching, large ruffled flowers, 8 buds. Sdlg. 912: Plum Gleam X Chartreuse Ruffles. . . . \$35.00

1993 Introductions: AMERICAN STYLE, BORN A KING, TRUE VALOR—\$20.00 each.

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MARGIE ROBINSON

558 N. Stratford Road

Wichita, Kansas 67206

Phone (316) 684-3982

SWEET SENSATION (M. Robinson '94) Sdlg. 85-36, BB, 27", M.

Each icy-blue flower, with pleated horizontal falls and heavily ruffled standards, resembles a lovely little nosegay. Substance is very strong. The beards are icy blue turning yellow in the throat. Light sweet fragrance. \$25.00

FLORENTINE FABLE (M. Robinson '91) Sdlg. 83-18, BB, 27", M.

Very bright, smooth apricot (RHS 29C) flowers blending to cream around the intense red-orange (33B) beards. Strong substance. Third place medal winner in Florence, Italy, 1992. \$8.00

DANCE WITH ME (M. Robinson '89). Sdlg. 80-81. TB, 37", M.

Beautifully formed, heavily ruffled flower in light yellow (RHS 4C). Very strong stalks. Now growing in the Royal Horticultural Gardens in London, England. Medal winner of 5th place overall in Florence, Italy, 1991. \$10.00

Please order from this ad.

Priority mail postpaid.

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Don & Bobbie Shepard
3342 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85051
Phone (602) 841-1231

1994 INTRODUCTIONS

From Don Shepard, Bernard Hamner,
Charles Jenkins and Floyd Wickenkamp

- CRANBERRY FIRE** (Shepard) BB, 27", E. Luscious two-toned cranberry; bright red beards. \$25.00
- GOLD VELOCITY** (Hamner) BB, 27", EM. Ruffled mustard gold, heavy brown veins. \$25.00
- ZESTFUL MISS** (Hamner) BB, 27", E. Popular mix of grape falls accented by lavender standards, edges and veining. Ruffled. \$25.00
- BURGUNDY PARTY** (Hamner) TB, 36", M. Rich burgundy falls, softer shade on standards \$35.00
- LADY CELESTA** (Hamner) TB, 38", M. Pale blue self with blue beards. \$35.00
- MARY'S COLOR** (Hamner) TB, 38", M. Dark plum violet; tangerine beards. \$35.00
- TWICE BLUE** (Hamner) TB, 38", M. Ruffled, icy blue over deep royal blue falls. \$35.00
- APRIL'S BIRTHDAY** (Jenkins) SPU, 45", VE & RE. Lacy white, large yellow signal. \$25.00
- DANDILITE** (Jenkins) SPU, 40", EM. Energetic bright ruffled yellow self. \$25.00
- GIUSEPPE** (Jenkins) SPU, 39", M. Dashing, large white, vibrant gold signal. \$25.00
- LADY BUTTERFLY** (Jenkins) SPU, 48", E. Ruffled and frilly pale yellow self, gold signal. \$25.00
- MY IMPULSE** (Jenkins) SPU, 52", EM. Purple standards, yellow falls with bronze veins and edges. \$25.00
- RODEO BLUE** (Jenkins) SPU, 43", E. Sky blue with falls blending white from yellow signal. \$25.00
- SUNRISE IN SONORA** (Wickenkamp) SPU, 44", M. Dark maroon-violet, large bright gold blaze. \$25.00
- SUNSET COLORS** (Jenkins) SPU, 52", M. Pastel blend of mauve and lavender on yellow. \$25.00
- WYOMING COWBOYS** (Wickenkamp) SPU, 48", M. Large, wide cinnamon brown and gold beauty. \$25.00

Add \$5.00 P&H or \$8.00 for 2nd Day Air
Detailed Catalog on request for First Class Stamp

GEORGE A. SHOOP

12560 S.W. Douglas

Portland, OR 97225

1994 INTRODUCTIONS

SEA SPLASH (Shoop) TB, 36", M. Lightly ruffled reverse blue amoena with tangerine beards. Flaring falls. Ruffled Florette X 87-38, blue amoena. \$35.00

SNOW PLUM (Shoop) IB, 16", E. White standards and peach pink falls with tangerine beards. Good form and balance. 89-50-1: Lankow 2A28-3 X Snow Crown \$12.50

Dwarfs

FASHION BUG (Shoop) SDB, 9", M. A widely ruffled violet with tangerine beards. A new color combination for this class. Choice! 89-59-2: (yellow SDB. X Sunny Honey) X (pink IB x Pink Caper). \$10.00

FIRST ROMANCE (Shoop) SDB, 10", M. Pure pink standards and white falls with tangerine pink beards. A bright but romantic flower. Different! 89-57-1: Spring Dancer X Pink Caper. \$10.00

SMALL REWARD (Shoop) SDB, 9", M. A small, flaring white with nice pink spot on the falls. New and pleasing. 89-59-4, sib to Fashion Bug. \$10.00
All three SDBs for \$25.00—Postage \$3.00—No catalog

A TOAST FOR '94

SKOAL (Nancy Bartlett) Sdlg. #4E1. TB, 39", M-L, horned. Ruffled golden brown self. Tall, vigorous and many budded, with brown haft markings. Fat golden beards and prominent HORNS. \$30.00

RANCHO DE LOS FLORES

8000 Balcom Canyon Road

Moorpark, CA 93021

(805) 529-6534

QUALITY REBLOOMERS

1994 Introductions of Raymond Smith

SONATA IN BLUE—A ruffled blue (Nickerson 10PB 5/9) self, showing its heritage from Pink Sleigh (one grandparent) and its parent, Victoria Falls. My best iris produced in 43 years of hybridizing for rebloom. A fine pod parent but usually no pollen. \$50.00

***COMPETITION**—A ruffled white from a Winter Olympics seedling crossed to Olive Reflection. Fertile both ways. \$35.00

REMARKABLE—Ruffled golden bronze from seedlings going back 35 years involving Memphis Lass, Fall Majesty, Rainbow Gold, Laced Duet, D. Hall pinks, Gibson Girl, Pin Up Girl and Leora Kate. Fertile both ways. \$35.00

REDELTA—A ruffled white ground purple plicata selected from 200 reblooming siblings of the outstanding plicata parent, Earl of Essex, crossed to a reblooming seedling of Stepping Out. \$35.00

***SEA FLUFF**—Ruffled light blue from a seedling of Victoria Falls crossed to Olive Reflection. Fertile. \$35.00

***BLUE REVIEW**—Sib of Sea Fluff, but slightly darker and a bit more formal. Fertile. \$35.00

***OLIVE REFLECTION** (1992) An excellent parent for whites and blues. Flower is ruffled and slightly smaller than the others. Ruffled antique white with an olive cast and darker styles. From a reblooming Winter Olympics seedling crossed to an inbred Earl Roberts seedling. \$20.00

LIGHT REBUFF (1992) A fine ruffled light orange-yellow that I would term a buff pastel. It is out of tangerine-bearded pink lines. It is fragile in appearance but has plenty of substance. Better in Fall than Spring and like Olive Reflection is fertile both ways. \$20.00

ONE EACH OF ALL OF THE ABOVE—\$200.00

All of these varieties have rebloomed here for three or more years. The rebloom is from increases on Spring blooming rhizomes and not from clones producing a second crop of bloomstalks from rhizomes that did not bloom in the Spring. Those marked with an asterisk should not be fertilized with nitrogen as this produces heavy vegetative increase rather than heavy rebloom.

Shipping season 1 July to 15 Sept. No foreign sales. No shipping/handling charge. No price list, catalog or extra plants. Nothing else for sale. In average seasons, these plants have good branching and 7-13 buds.

R. G. SMITH

3821 Sugar Lane

Bloomington, IN 47404

SPANISH FORK IRIS GARDENS

of Darlene Pinegar

40 South 200 West

Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Introductions for 1994

ALADDIN'S TREASURE (Pinegar) AB (OGB-) 28", E-M. Greenish-toned deep bronze S. with few red splashes. Styles same. F. have same ground color with red splashes and heavy red veining becoming solid near bronze edge. Small dark red signal below dark gold beards. From a distance, it looks like molten bronze and copper, especially with the sun behind it. Gorgeous! Domed S. and flaring F., slightly recurved. 4-5 buds. Has pollen but not tested. Cairo Sands X unknown. \$25.00

ASHLEIGH NICOLE (Pinegar) TB, 28", M. As pretty and dainty as our granddaughter, Ashleigh. Mid light pink S. and styles. Creamy white F. edged S. color, apricot shoulders. Dark coral beards. Ruffled with flaring F. 5-7 buds. Pod fertile, pollen not tested. Vanity X Marmalade Skies. \$25.00

BABY BROWN EYES (Pinegar) SDB, 9", E-M. This caught my eye when it first bloomed because the coloring was a little different from others I'd seen. Yellowish brown S. edged brown. Yellowish brown styles. Flaring, lightly ruffled, velvety rust red F. edged yellow-brown. Deep yellow hafts. Dark orange beards tipped yellow. 2 buds. Pod fertile. Pollen not tested. Sunstrip X unknown. \$10.00

DARKTOWN STRUTTER'S BALL (Pinegar) TB, 33", M-L. She's all dressed up for the ball in her dark violet taffeta blouse with matching styles. Her darker violet velvet skirt flares and swirls, cupping up in places. Wine markings on whitish hafts, but F. are so wide, hafts hardly show. Violet beards, yellow in throat, trim her skirt. 7-8 buds. She's a real beauty who will turn many heads. (April Melody x Spinning Wheel) X Capricious. \$25.00

GINA THE GYPSY (Pinegar) TB, 30", EM-M. Named for our beautiful, exotic granddaughter. The first time it bloomed, I knew this was Gina's. Beautiful in an odd but enticing way. Greenish yellow S. and styles narrowly edged white. F. have velvety deep purple centers, blending to lighter blue-purple with narrow brownish edges. Brownish red hafts and deep yellow beards complete the look. Nice branching and stalks, 5-8 buds. Pod sterile, low pollen fertility. Tied for 14th place from 150 first-year plants in '93 at Loomis Trial Gardens. Twist of Fate X Rowdy. \$25.00

GRANDMA'S BLOOMERS (Pinegar) TB, 28", E-M. Another for the front of the flower bed, but what a lovely one! Apricot ground S. almost solidly overlaid greyed mid red-purple. Styles same with apricot on inside at base. Mid apricot ground F. that lighten a little, shoulders and edge in same greyed red-purple stitching. White area around burnt orange, tipped white beards. Red-purple at tip of beards and thin center line extending almost to edge. Flaring, ruffled F. Strong sweet scent, 5-7 buds. Fertile both ways. Skookumchuck X Daredevil. \$25.00

SPANISH SKIES (Pinegar) TB, 36", E-M. Sib to Spanish Ice and Alicia Ann, and the last of this good cross to be introduced. Beautiful, ruffled sky blue flowers, slightly lighter around deep yellow, tipped white beards. Flaring F. Good stalks and branching. Some split stalks and can get 2-3 stalks from one fan. Up to 14 buds. Pod fertile, pollen not tested. Victoria Falls X Cloud Fire. \$25.00

Special Offer: All seven of our 1994 introductions are being offered for a special price of \$100.00. No further bonuses on this offer, however.

If ordering from this ad, please add \$3.00 (west of the Rockies) or \$4.00 (east of the Rockies) for shipping and handling. For a complete descriptive list of our irises, please send two first-class stamps. We have many TB, AB, Median and Reblooming irises.

HAROLD L. STAHLY

8343 Manchester Drive

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Introductions from the Robarts, Simon and Stahly Gardens

ALLURING PINK (Simon '94) TB, 36", M. Light pink standards; falls light pink with lighter area in center; orange beards tipped white. Very attractive flower, well-formed and ruffled, on good stalks. . . . \$30.00

BALTIC STAR (Stahly '94) TB, 34", M. Purple-black standards (deeper than RHS 79A), a little lighter at midrib. Falls same with a white wash at beards blending to solid purple-black rim; clean hafts touched deep brown; deep brown-violet beards. Ruffled, wide, semi-flaring flowers on excellent stalks. Different than any iris I know, this striking plicata variant comes from solid red-black parents, each half plic. Fertile. Sdlg. 88-28: (Wagontrail Night X Night Lady). \$30.00

COVERT ACTION (Stahly '94) TB, 36", M. Standards light blue (RHS 91A) deepening to medium blue (93C) at base. Falls light blue (91C) with a sharply defined spot-like pattern in center that is medium blue-violet (90B); light blue beards tipped bronze inside. Very nicely formed flowers, wide and ruffled. Sdlg. 88-33: (On the Road X High Five). \$30.00

MY PLEASURE (Robarts '94) TB, 33", M. Standards are bright pink; falls medium rosy violet. Bright tangerine beards with slight horns. Well-branched, seven buds. Good form and ruffling. This stands out! Sdlg. 615-1: inv. pink horned parentage including Pink Taffeta, Schiaparelli, Holiday House and Far Corners. \$30.00

SISTER ACT (Robarts '94) TB, 38", M. Peach pink self; very bright tangerine beards becoming pink at tip which is usually a short horn. Well-branched, seven buds. Nice ruffled form. The beards make the flower stand out as a hot pink. Light fragrance. Sdlg. 615-2, sib to My Pleasure. \$30.00

SKY ADVENTURE (Simon '94) TB, 36", M. Rosy lavender self; coral red beards tipped white. Large blooms are wide, fluted and blocky; good stalks. Sdlg. 51-67-49: (Enchanted World X (Rondetta x Glory Bound)). \$30.00

TRENDY (Robarts '94) TB, 34", M-L. Light violet-toned pink; tangerine beards, wide and fuzzy, ending in 2½ violet horns (consistently). Fluted falls, slight fragrance. Fertile, an excellent breeder for horned and flounced seedlings. Sdlg. P-40-PS-9-5: inv. pink horned seedlings X Pink Sleight. Introduced as a breeder for \$20.00

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AARON'S DREAM (Sutton '94) TB 37" E-M-L and late RE. A gorgeous ruffled semi-flaring pale blue (almost white) self with mid-blue beards. The 3 to 5 well-spaced branches carry 8 to 12 well-formed flowers of heavy substance. This beauty has a tendency to rebloom very late in warm climates. As with Moses' brother, Aaron, a dream of greater things to come. A unique cross of Australian and American parents opens up new avenues of breeding potential. (Faithfulness x Scented Nutmeg) X Baldwin 8241-A: (Jolimont x Velvet Vista) \$35.00

BULLWINKLE (Sutton '94) BB 24-26" M. A well-proportioned cutie that has stayed in class for four years running. Moderately ruffled with 3 branches and 7-8 flowers. Stds. are bright mid-yellow with burgundy midrib; style arms are mid-yellow faintly washed burgundy. Falls have lighter yellow ground lightly dotted burgundy; hafts are heavily plicated and spiked burgundy. To top it all off, each fall has a double rim: 1/8" light yellow outer ring surrounds 1/3" burgundy inner band. Golden orange beards touched white beneath, and burgundy stripe down entire midline. Truly a unique iris! ((Gypsy Wings x Heat Flare) x Tulare) X Baby Bengal \$25.00

DREAM INDIGO (C. Bartlett '94) IB 23" E-M. I fell in love with this one when it first bloomed here. An IB that looks like a BB in its ruffled and finished flower form. A ruffled and flared beauty with storm grey S. and semi-flaring F. of dark violet indigo; grey beards. Well-branched with as many as 10 flowers. This ruffled beauty will be a great addition to your collection. Gossip X Wensleydale \$20.00

FRITILLARY FLIGHT (C. Bartlett '94) IB 26" E. This interesting IB will sometimes grow to 28" for us, but usually stays in class. S. are light dove grey; F. are interesting blend of greyed ocher yellow; cream beards with blue-brown overtones; lightly ruffled. Mrs. Nate Rudolph X Echo de France \$15.00

LEMON WINE (C. Bartlett '94) IB 20" E. An IB with strong SDB characteristics and good form and branching. A clear clean bright yellow with burgundy thumbprint on F.; yellow to orange beards; ruffled. Very nice. (Diligence x Eyebright) X Arden sib \$15.00

SHURTON INN (C. Bartlett '94) TB 34" M. We are introducing this unusual iris as a breeder. It doesn't always have 7 buds but is quite unusual in color with great breeding potential. Sdlg. # is BA-1, called "brown amoena". S. white; F. olive brown blend; grey beards are yellow in throat. If you want some unusual breeding in your seedlings, this one is for you. Inv. breeding includes Chimbolam, Walter Bruce, Champagne Braise, Echo de France, Alpine Sunshine. Limited stock \$40.00

TEMPLECOMBE (C. Bartlett '94) TB 30" M-L. This is registered as a short tall, but has always been 27" or less for me. Well received at '92 Region 14 Spring Regional. Peach pink, paler in center of F.; pink-orange beards. Paradise X Wings of Dreams \$30.00

TEMPLECLOUD (C. Bartlett '94) IB 24" E-M. Another award winner for Cy is this nicely waved and ruffled amoena. Very pale silvery blue S. (almost white); deep violet F. with brown overtones on hafts; cream beards are tinted brown-violet in throat. AM (Wisley) '91. Little Admiral X Faraway \$20.00

WILD SHARON (Sutton '94) TB 36" E-M. Very popular as a seedling. A well-branched wild one! No two flowers are exactly alike. S. are white. Technically, F. have white ground but give the appearance of being reddish blue-violet with white striping; blue-violet beards; moderately ruffled. ((Big League x Stitched Beauty) x (Ribbon Round x Phoenix)) X French Gown \$30.00

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IN '94"

I am dedicating my first introductions to **Allan Ensminger** whose work with both variegated foliage and color-breaking flowers inspired my interest in hybridizing. A special thanks to Don Nebeker and the judges of Region 12 for all their encouragement. All introductions this year have color-breaking flowers, but in '95 I'll have some with variegated foliage.

BABOON BOTTOM (*Kasperek '94*) **BB 26" M.** This pink displays it all! Open standards of streaked and swirled medium pink and old rose showcase laced, red-purple accented, pink crests. Laced flaring falls streaked medium pink and old rose on light pink ground with random swirls of off-white. Shoulders dotted red-purple. Tangerine beards tipped rose. 4-6 Buds.
Date Bait X Maria Tormena (89-44) \$25.00

TIGER HONEY (*Kasperek '94*) **TB 38" EM.** Artistic designer's dream! Standards butterscotch with random golden-yellow streaks. Heavily substandard flaring falls butterscotch and caramel stripes on a golden-yellow ground accented with off-white streaking. Butterscotch beards. Laced and ruffled. Show stalks! 6-8 Buds. Region 12 favorite seedling '91. EC '92.
Desert Realm X Maria Tormena (89-45D) \$35.00

GNU (*Kasperek '94*) **TB 32" M.** Ruffled, modern flaring form! Light lavender washed with medium lavender and off-white. Striking splashes of medium violet throughout and medium violet-purple accents on shoulders. Burnt orange beards tipped violet. 6-7 Buds.
Maria Tormena X Eagle's Flight (89-40F) \$35.00

GNU AGAIN (*Kasperek '94*) **TB 32" M.** SPORT's model of GNU! This startling genetic sport has medium violet standards with random splashes of white. Large, ruffled flaring dark violet falls with random breaks and splashes of white. Orange beards tipped violet. 6-7 Buds.
Maria Tormena X Eagle's Flight (89-40F SP) \$35.00

GNU BLUES (*Kasperek '94*) **TB 36" M.** Garden standout! Lightly ruffled standards and falls are medium violet-blue with random patches of medium to dark blue-violet. Orange beards tipped medium blue-violet. 6-8 Buds.
Painted Plic X Babbling Brook (89-56B) \$35.00

VIOLET TIGER (*Kasperek '94*) **TB 28" M.** Striking! Standards royal violet with white radiating outward from ribs. Flaring falls royal violet randomly streaked white. Blue-violet beards tipped orange. 7-9 Buds.
Dot and Dash X Painted Plic (89-54C) \$35.00

TERMS: I am offering deep discounts this year in lieu of extras. Postpaid prices: 2 for \$50., 3 for \$70., 4 for \$85., 5 for \$95. or 6 for \$99.95. If requested, a start of Zebra and/or I. Pallida Argentea is available with order.

HOW TO REGISTER AND INTRODUCE AN IRIS

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

REGISTRATIONS

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Kay Nelson-Keppel, P.O. Box 18145, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 for each registration and \$10.00 for transferring a name from one iris to another.
2. Select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval when you request the blank. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registration and Introduction* booklets (beginning with 1990). Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been filed and approved, and a certificate of registration has been returned to you.
3. Names should follow the rules established by the **International Horticultural Code**. The following names shall not be permitted:
 - a. Names of living persons without their written permission, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.
 - b. Names of persons with the following forms of address or their equivalent in other languages: Mr., Mrs., Miss. Ms.
 - c. Names including numerals or symbols, or any form of punctuation other than apostrophe, hyphen or period.
 - d. Names beginning with the articles "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
 - e. Abbreviations and contractions unless required by linguistic custom.
 - f. Latin names or latinized forms.
 - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
 - h. Slight variation of previously registered name.
 - i. Names containing more than three words, ten syllables or thirty letters.
 - j. Names containing the word "iris".
 - k. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate; e.g., Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black.
 - l. Names translated from the original language. (They may be transliterated as necessary).
 - m. Names formed entirely by recombining parts of the parental species' names.
4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists and advertisements in the *Bulletin of the American Iris Society* are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite for awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for these awards until after it has been recorded with the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar-Recorder a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail, highlighting your introductions **prior to October 15**. Acknowledgement of introduction(s) will be made.

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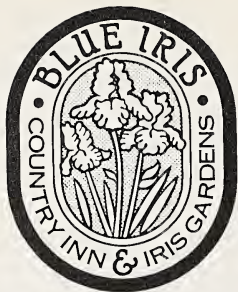
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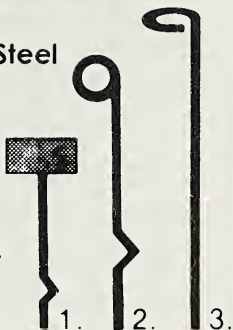
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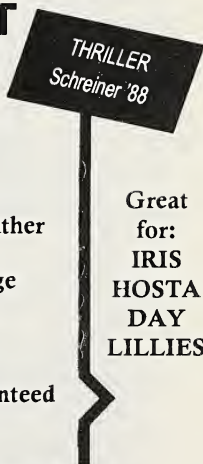
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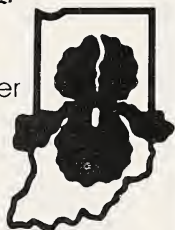
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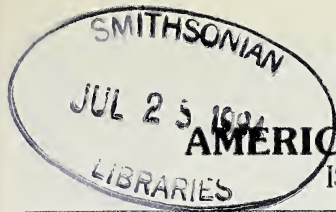
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SPURIA IRIS SOCIETY: Ruth Wilder, 802 Camellia Avenue, Anderson, SC 29621; *Floyd W. Wickenkamp, 10521 Bellarosa Dr., Sun City, AZ 85351*

SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES: Howard Brookins, N 75 W 142 57 North Point Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-4325; *Carol Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155, (410) 374-4788*

REBLOOMING IRIS SOCIETY: Dr. John Weiler, 1146 Rialto, Fresno, CA 93705; *Charlie Brown, 3114 S. FM 131, Denison, TX 75020*

DWARF IRIS SOCIETY: Eric Tankesley-Clarke, Route 1, Box 246, California, MO 65018; *Lynda Miller, 3167 E. U.S. 224, Ossian, IN 46777*

SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRISES: David Lennette, 1325 Court Street, Alameda, CA 94501; *Adele Lawyer, 4333 Oak Hill Road, Oakland, CA 94605*

SPECIES IRIS GROUP OF NORTH AMERICA (SIGNA): Richard Kiyomoto, 486 Spiff St., North Haven, CT 06473; *Colin Rigby, 18341 Paulson SW, Rochester, WA 98579*

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY(HIPS): Lawrence L. Doucette, 482 Middlesex Avenue, Wilmington, MA 01887; *Ada Godfrey, 9 Bradford Street, Foxborough, MA 01035*

Cooperating Societies

ARIL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL: Peter McGrath, 4605 Cairo, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111; *Audrey Roe, 2816 Charleston, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110*

SOCIETY FOR LOUISIANA IRISES: Henry Rowlan, 12 Roxbury Drive, Little Rock, AR 72209; *Elaine Bourque, 1812 Broussard Rd. E., Lafayette, LA 70508.*

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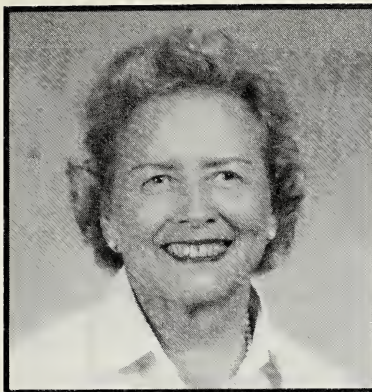
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On the Cover is PECCADILLO, a border bearded iris, from the Median Class. Photo courtesy of Keith Keppel.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

It is summer. Another bloom season has passed. Catalogs have been studied; orders have been placed; rhizomes are being separated in preparation for re-planting. There will be local rhizome sales, and there will be dreams of beautiful bloom next year.

Judges have voted their ballots and are completing their annual activity reports. The AIS Judges' Training Program as we know it is relatively new, having been established in the 1960s. It is revised and updated from time to time as changes are needed. Judges are required to have on-going training and are expected to accept invitations to judge shows whenever possible. A good judge should grow different types of irises and should include some of the newer varieties in his or her garden. Above all, a judge must make every effort to visit gardens, as many as possible, especially those of hybridizers. The annual activity report becomes a summary of a judge's activities during the past year and will include information on the number of Judges' Training classes attended.

What about all of our members who are not judges? I hope that non-judges realize that attendance at these Judges' Training classes is not limited to judges and student judges. Everyone can benefit from these sessions and indeed can enjoy them, whether or not there is any inclination toward becoming a judge. There is a wealth of information on many subjects to be gleaned from the classes. (On a personal note, I have never grown tired of attending Judges' Training classes. They are a pleasure, not a chore.) Take advantage of a good thing and attend a few. You will enjoy your iris growing and showing even more than you do now.

Because of *Bulletin* deadlines, this message is being written before the time of the convention in Portland, thus there can be no report or comment on that meeting. We trust that it has been a successful one, and it is sure that this convention has been one of the largest, if not the largest, ever. More later about Portland.

In closing, I would like to say that my heart was warmed and touched by the many cards, letters, and calls from iris friends from around the country this spring when my husband died. Each communication was deeply appreciated, and each one reinforced what I already knew, that our iris world is a community of wonderful and caring people.

ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S LETTER

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY JULY 1, 1994

Each year the terms of office expire for one third of the twelve directors of The American Iris Society, and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS bylaws, a five-member Personnel Committee recommends to The AIS Board of Directors candidates for nomination as directors. The Personnel Committee consists of two directors chosen by the Board of Directors, two RVPs selected by the Board of Counselors, and one Section member selected by the Section Advisory Board.

As approved during the spring, 1994, meeting in Portland, Oregon, three incumbent directors eligible for additional terms were renominated, and in addition, Lynda Miller was nominated to complete the slate of four. Therefore, approved in accordance with the AIS bylaws, the nominees for regular three-year terms expiring in 1997 are:

Clarence Mahan

Harold Stahly

Jean Witt

Lynda Miller

The bylaws provide that nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before September 1, 1994. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before October 1, 1994, to all AIS members and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before November 1, 1994. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot may be omitted.

Claire Barr, President

American Iris Society Conventions

1995	York, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	
1997	Detroit, MI	
1998	Denver, CO	
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	

Fall Board Meetings

1994	Albuquerque, NM	November 4-6
1995	Oklahoma City, Ok	November 3-5

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual	\$ 12.50	Dual Triennial	37.50
Single Triennial	30.00	Single Life	250.00
Dual Annual	15.50	Dual Life	300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin			3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin			4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual	\$15.00	Dual Annual	\$18.00
Single Triennial	37.50	Dual Triennial	45.00

Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

**PLANNING
TO MOVE ?**



**DON'T FORGET
TO NOTIFY THE
MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY**

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455

MICHIGAN '97

REQUEST FOR BEARDLESS GUEST IRISES

The Iris Club of Southeast Michigan and Region 6 will be hosting the 1997 Convention of The American Iris Society in the Detroit Metro area. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction. In this area (climate zones 5-6) it takes beardless irises about three years to establish a clump worthy of viewing.

Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

1. Three rhizomes of each variety should be shipped.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from August 1 to September 15, 1994.
3. All official guest irises must be shipped to '97 Guest Iris Co-Chairs:

c/o Howard & Kim Hughes
Northwest Propane
3300 North Lapeer Road
Oxford, MI 48371-1606
(810) 664-5525
4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a SEPARATE PACKING LIST containing the contributor's address:
 - A. Hybridizer's name
 - B. Name or seedling number of the variety
 - C. Type of iris (i.e. SIB, SPU, LA)
 - D. Height and color
 - E. Year of introduction (if introduced)
5. When guest seedlings are named, it is the hybridizer's responsibility to notify the Guest Iris Chairs not later than December 1, 1996.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the disposition of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 1997, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the statement of the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only rhizomes received through the Guest Iris Chairs will be listed in the Convention booklet.

Ann Cline, Convention Chair '97
1 (800) IRIS-LOVER (voice mail)
1 (800) 474-4568

MEDIAN IRISES

Jim Morris, President, Median Iris Society

FOREWORD

It is a pleasure to preface the articles on median irises prepared by members of the Median Iris Society. This series of articles is a group effort with editorial review of the results by eminent irisarians throughout the United States.

First and foremost, thanks go to the late editor of *The Medianite*, Sheldon H. Butt. His interest, patience and perseverance are notable. Under his editorship, members of the Median Iris Society have been treated annually to over 80,000 words on the median irises. This far exceeds the annual availability of specialized data produced by any other Section of AIS.

Thanks also to Ben Hager, Keith Keppel, Bob Schreiner, Bee Warburton and Lloyd Zurbrigg for their interest and helpful suggestions. And to Jean Witt, Dave Niswonger, Lynda Miller, Lynn Markham and Lee Eberhardt our gratitude is extended, not only for the wealth of median information provided, but also for their timely responses to me as I scrambled to recover editorial material following the unexpected loss of the talented Sheldon Butt. He will be missed by us all.

We trust that you will enjoy each median article presented. If you do and would like to share in the exciting exchange of median iris information, we encourage you to join with us by becoming a member of the Median Iris Society. Thank you.

REMEMBERING—HOW MEDIAN IRISES BEGAN

Lee E. Eberhardt (Ohio)

The early 1950s saw the start of median irises. Prior to that time there were some small cultivars, mainly from *I. lutescens* (then called *I. chamaeiris*) and “runts” from tall bearded breeding. Most all were diploids. Mixed pollen was used by even the most eminent of the hybridizers, such as the Sass brothers.

STANDARD DWARF AND INTERMEDIATE IRISES (SDB and IB)

There are no bearded irises native to the western hemisphere. All the forebears of our bearded irises have been imported from Central Europe and the Near East. The key input eventually leading to today's SDB and IB classes came from imported 32 chromosome tetraploid seed of *I. pumila* by Robert Schreiner: NANA from the Crimea; CARPATHIA and SULINA from Cludji in Transylvania. These were sent to Bee Warburton and also to Paul Cook together with five additional *I. pumila* from Vienna Botanical Gardens. CRETICA was probably among these and was used to produce the plicata DALE DENNIS. A little later Dr. Fitz Randolph made collecting trips to eastern Europe and brought back a number of species, notably *I. cengialtii*, several clones of *I. aphylla*, *I. pseudopumila*, *I. mellita*, *I. attica* and others. These were also mostly tetraploids. These irises became the foundation stock for today's MDBs, SDBs and IBs. Most of these species, particularly *I. pumila*, found their way to the

hybridizing patches of Bee Warburton, Massachusetts; Walter Welch, Indiana; Paul Cook, Indiana; Helen Doriot, Indiana, and others.

The collected species provided a large gene pool for the hybridizer's use. Chromosome counts were made on the various species as well as on available cultivars. The earliest work with this gene pool was on pure *pumilas* by intercrossing, selfing and outcrossing to the other species including *I. mellita*, *I. arenaria*, *I. lutescens* and others, further extending the diversity of the gene pool. Initial progeny were generally within the limits of the present MDB classification. This work provided a very broad range of colors, spot patterns, inhibitors, recessives, etc. as well as many Welch and Cook named varieties and numbered seedlings.

This activity led in turn to well attended annual get togethers at Walter Welch's in Middlebury, Indiana during the early May *pumila* season. Visits were also made to Helen Doriot's and Paul Cook's. Out of the meetings and via Robins grew the Dwarf Iris Society, initially operated almost entirely by Walter Welch.

Crosses were made between the *pumilas*, tall bearded and "intermediates" such as PROGENITOR, SAN FRANCISCO, MME. CHEREAU, SNOW FLURRY, CHIVALRY and others. In the F_1 generation the hybrids were uniformly 12" tall or shorter, bloomed shortly after the *I. pumila* and exhibited a wide range of colors, spot and halo patterns. Truly a new class of irises, then called "Lilliputs" by Geddes Douglas, now known as SDBs. The F_2 generation by selfing, backcrossing, and intercrossing the "lilliputs" gave Mendelian distribution for height, color and time of bloom. The hybridizers had opened a veritable Pandora's box of irises.

The IBs came mainly from the SDB F_2 generation, crossing SDB and tall bearded. IBs have been severely screened by hybridizers, particularly with regard to overall proportion and particularly to avoid oversize TB blooms on the shorter IBs. Species crosses with *I. aphylla* and *I. lutescens* and IB intercrosses have been used. The latter are difficult because of the limited fertility of the IBs from SDB X TB.

Activity in Indiana continued, led by Walter Welch, Paul Cook, Earl Roberts, Jack Norrick and Emma Hobbs. In Ohio, activity in the Cleveland area was promoted by RVP Dorothy Willott's parents, the McClintocks. The West Coast was active with Bennett Jones, Jean Witt, Ben Hager, Crescent Deru, Elsie Henke, Gus Schreiner and Alta Brown, as well as others. Sparked by Bee Warburton, the New Englanders formed the New England Median Iris Society. In addition to Bee Warburton, others who were very active included Jack Goett, "Bobbie" Whitehouse, Harry Kuesel and Bill Peck. All were hybridizers. NEMIS was very active in sponsoring spring small iris shows. Two NEMIS shows which I attended were held at the Worcester (MA) Horticultural Society and the Brooklyn (NY) Botanic Garden. The Worcester show was memorable for the cottage and apple trees in full bloom on the stage.

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED IRISES (MTB)

Early MTB hybridizing was mainly existing, in-class, diploid cultivars such as *I. variegata*, PEEWEE, SISKIN, SHERWIN WRIGHT and KALEIDOSCOPE. Gradually, several species were introduced into MTB breeding with some success by Dorothy Guild, Jean Witt and Mary Louise Dunderman. The awards won by these hybridizers attest to their success, Dunderman's CAROLYN ROSE being a noteworthy example.

The first tetraploid MTB was Paul Cook's RING BEARER. Somewhat later, Ben Hager used *I. aphylla*—THISBE on TBs and produced many tetraploid cultivars in all median classes. THISBE proved to be a very important and potent parent. Most of the other clones of *I. aphylla* provided only purples and lavenders. For this reason, Paul Cook had abandoned work using *I. aphylla* since he had never had THISBE.

THE MEDIAN IRIS SOCIETY

A national organization, the Median Iris Society, was formed in 1957 and soon became the first section of The American Iris Society. A quarterly publication, *The Medianite*, was initiated by Bee Warburton who continued for several years as editor and publisher. It soon became very apparent that the MIS, with four bearded iris subsections, required well-defined standards which were developed and later adopted by AIS. Strict adherence to standards for the four classes of SDBs, IBs, MTBs and BBs is necessary. A general description of each class was published as an introduction to the MIS 1983 publication *The Median Bearded Irises—Introduction and Varietal Listing*:

Standard Dwarf Bearded Irises—David B. Sindt

The standard dwarf bearded irises, the smallest of the medians, but with the largest number of registrations, are bearded irises from 8 inches to 15 inches inclusive in height, measured from ground level to the top of the blossom. SDBs are often highly vigorous and hardy, quickly producing large clumps typically of cushion habit with the blossoms blanketing the clump, and just a little taller than the leaves. All colors found in other classes of irises are also found among the SDBs. They bloom toward the end of the miniature dwarf bearded season, and before the intermediates, combining well with the later spring bulbs and low-growing spring-flowering perennials. They are most attractive at the front of borders and in a variety of other garden uses, and their leaves often continue to produce an attractive mound of low green spears well into the summer and even fall. A few varieties rebloom in the fall, giving a most welcome repeat performance with the asters and chrysanthemums.

Intermediate Bearded Irises—Alta Brown

Intermediates are so called because of their intermediate height and bloom season, which comes between those of the standard dwarfs and the tall bearded. They range in height from 16 to 27 inches inclusive. Stems are non-flexuous, usually with two branches, and extend well above the erect foliage. Flowers are four to five inches across with a normal number of five buds per stalk. They are mainly of hybrid origin, usually produced by crossing the standard dwarfs with the tall-bearded varieties, but some of them have come from crossing species such as *I. aphylla* and *I. chamaeiris* with the tall bearded. They may also be produced by intercrossing the intermediates, but since the fertility of these 44 chromosome hybrids is greatly reduced, this is not easy.

The newer intermediates have much of the finished qualities of the modern tall-bearded. Their substance is heavy, form is pleasing, falls rounded and flared; standards are arched and closed, many have ruffles and lace. They have the wide range of colors found in the tall bearded, plus some additional color combinations and patterns.

Intermediates have good hybrid vigor and make excellent accent plants for the front of the border. They are valuable to fill the gap between the standard dwarfs and the tall bearded, thus providing a continuous sequence of iris bloom.

Miniature Tall Bearded Irises—Jean G. Witt

The miniature tall bearded (also called table irises) are delicate modern versions of grandmother's old flags, designed to meet the needs of the flower arranger and the small gardener. Flower size is about the same as in the SDB, 2½ inches to 3½ inches across, while the form is also airier and less ruffled than in the larger irises, with more of a wild-flower look. The plants, however, have typical tall bearded proportions in miniature, with flowers carried well above the foliage, not resting on it. Stems range from 16 inches to 25 inches in height, the optimum being about 21 inches. MTBs are distinguished from the IBs and BBs whose height range is similar, by slightly smaller size of flower and plant, and especially by their much thinner, more graceful, wiry, well-branched stems. Their bloom season coincides with that of the BB and TB classes, mid-May to mid-June in the northern states, and includes both early and late-late varieties.

Border Bearded Irises—May Belle Wright

The border bearded class was created in 1958 when The American Iris Society revised its classification system and adopted the 1949 proposal with border bearded as a subclass of the tall bearded division. In the 1958 classification, border bearded were defined as a distinct type, "Plants 16-27 inches tall; stalks branched, stiffly erect; leaves erect and shorter than the bloomstalk; blooms larger than those of the miniature tall bearded, but preferably smaller than those of the typical tall bearded; blooming with the tall bearded irises."

Since that time the people who are most interested in the class have realized that although it is not officially required, a good border bearded should not have merely a short stem with a tall bearded size flowers, but should also have small flowers with all other parts of the plant in proportion. These irisarians feel that the ideal border bearded should be dainty in its overall effect. Above all, it should be so distinctively a border bearded that it cannot be mistaken for a tall bearded.

Border bearded with these qualifications have the advantage of needing no staking, even in windy areas and, in addition, their small blooms are ideal for flower arranging. The compactness of such plants makes them perfect for use in the front of the flower border.

REMONTANT (REBLOOMING) MEDIANS

In the Reblooming Iris Society's Checklist published in 1988, the earliest listings are the dwarf cultivars JEAN SIRET and LIEUTENANT DE CHAVAGNAC by R. André of France in 1926. Between 1933 and 1935 the Sass brothers introduced IBs KING JR., WHITE AUTUMN KING, AUTUMN ELF, LAURA HUTCHESON, SANGREAL and the DB OCTOBER BLUE. Proven rebloomer gene carriers of the 1930s also included MOUNT WASHINGTON (E. Essig TB), E. Lapham's RED RAP and R. Nichols' IB SUREFIRE. The 1940s provided TBs as proven carriers of the reblooming genes: David Hall's FANTASY; James Gibson's GIBSON GIRL and TECHNICOLOR; ROCKET by Agnes Whiting, Muhlestein's PINK FORMAL and SALLY ANN by K. Smith. Some of the 1950s proven carriers were: Dave Hall's PALOMINO; Walter Welch's MDB VERIGAY and Orville Fay's RIPPLING WATERS. Other early rebloomer hybridizers were

G. Percy Brown, Raymond Smith, Tom Craig and Frank P. Jones.

There was little work on reblooming medians before 1980. Since then many excellent cultivars have been introduced by Lloyd Zurbrigg, John Weiler and Earl Hall among others. A good reblooming median should consistently rebloom in Zone 5 (150 frost free days). Some of these are SDBs: BABY BLESSED, JEWEL BABY, PLUM WINE, SMELL THE ROSES, and THRICE BLESSED; some IBs: BLESSED AGAIN, I BLESS and TAWNY. BB: LATE MAGIC. The only known MTB rebloomer is LADY EMMA which blooms too coarse in my garden.

With the increasing interest in remontants, we can expect many more reblooming medians in the future. Lloyd Zurbrigg suggests using *I. pumila* on remontant TBs.

MIS MEDALS

The outstanding median pioneers are the names on the MIS medals: SDBs—Paul Cook and Geddes Douglas; IBs—Hans and Jacob Sass; MTBs—Mary Williamson and Alice White; BBs—Harold Knowlton. The MIS medal artwork was by Bee Warburton and “Bobbie” Whitehouse. Production arrangements with Medallie Arts were handled by Harry Kuesel and Bill Peck.

For a more complete and lengthy story on early medians, an excellent source is Bee Warburton’s “Origins of Median Bearded Irises.” This is reprinted in the Fall 1993 issue of *The Medianite*; Volume 34, Number 3.

Most of the persons mentioned or quoted were the founders of both the Dwarf Iris Society and the Median Iris Society. Many are personal friends of long standing. I realize that my “old head” has missed many persons involved. For this I apologize. Old age provides a stronger “inhibitor” than *I. pumila* on TB blues.

EASIEST TO GROW IRIS— STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

Lynda Miller (Indiana)

The shortest of all the median classes is also the most vigorous. Once called “Lilliputs,” they were first referred to as SDBs in the 1959 Checklist as a group classification. Before that any iris of SDB size was a “dwarf bearded.” Since the Dwarf Iris Society was established in the early 1950’s, I can only guess that this is about the time Lilliputs, which were given a standardized name by AIS, were sized apart from miniature dwarf irises by height and bloom season. At one time the SDB class included all bearded irises 10” to 15”. Now they are defined as all bearded irises from 8” to 15” in height. Their bloom period is after peak miniature dwarf bearded bloom and ending in early intermediate bearded bloom time.

Standard dwarf bearded irises offer the average gardener an iris that will grow under more adverse conditions than many of the other bearded irises. They can

withstand more wind than taller irises without blowing over, will grow well in slightly shadier garden spots, and can withstand higher traffic areas, which makes them a great border. Best of all they thrive in northern climates very well. (They even grow well in containers for resale in nursery centers.) Because SDBs are very easy for the home gardener to grow, it is the responsibility of AIS judges to select not only beautiful, well shaped flowers but healthy foliaged, good strong growers that don't bloom out easily. For the iris grower, SDBs extend the bloom season, make a great border around tall bearded beds, and are very easy to show.

What should you look for in a good SDB? First, visit a few gardens that grow several SDBs. Besides varying heights, you will find several different shaped blossoms, depending on the background of the SDB. For example, an SDB bred up from MDB background will normally be shorter with more tailored blossoms. SDBs bred down from tall bearded or intermediate bearded stock will have larger, more ruffled blossoms on taller plants. So which is best? This is where taking a little judges' training can help. What judges should be looking for in a "perfect" SDB is one with blossoms proportioned to the height of the stalk at a ratio of one inch of blossom width to four inches of stalk height. Once you have determined that the plant has good proportion, you can choose a flower form you prefer; no form is considered the perfect form. What is considered imperfect is large blossoms on a short stalk; when the plant loses its proportion, it loses its gracefulness. Clumps will look bunchy and over-crowded. My ideal flower has round petals; the falls flare greatly and have light ruffling. Many times you will find the shorter SDBs that come from MDB breeding will be earlier blooming varieties and the ones from TB and IB breeding will be taller and later. A good example of the later varieties is CLASSY BABE, which I introduced in 1990, a coral pink with darker ray pattern. From IB breeding, it is 14" tall with a larger blossom, ruffled, and late blooming. The shorter the SDB, the finer the foliage should be, also. I've observed that some of the shorter SDBs that have too coarse foliage tend to be the ones that are prone to over-bloom. Yes, you can lose your stock to "bloom-out," just like a tall bearded, so you need to select varieties that grow well enough to increase your stock of plants at a slightly faster rate than the clump produces bloomstalks.

Another factor you might want to consider in selecting SDBs for your garden is spot pattern or no spot pattern on the falls. Since many SDBs have *pumila* breeding somewhere in their background (*I. pumila* is the very earliest blooming bearded iris species), that is where the spot patterns come from. Spots can be very large like the one on SLAP BANG (Niswonger '90), which is a bright yellow with dark red spots that cover most of the fall. Spots can be medium size, like U-TURN (Boswell '91), a light lavender-blue with sharply defined maroon-violet spots, to very small spots just around the beard area like PEACH PETAL PIE (Niswonger '92), ivory with pink infusion and peach spot along the sides of the beard. Spots can have a raying pattern in them like SNOW TREE (Sobek '90), a white with dark brown veined spot, or SHEER CLASS (L. Miller '88), pale rose pink with magenta ray spot. They can be very contrasting, like BLACK CHERRY DELIGHT (Niswonger '92), white with dark fuchsia spots, or have little contrast like CIMARRON ROSE (Nichols '90), with gray-red standards and tanner falls with deeper spots. Spots are very hard to breed out since the spot pattern is very dominant, so if you use varieties with spots in a hybridizing program, expect to grow new varieties with spot patterns.

If you are not interested in spot patterns, there are many outstanding varieties without spots, many having contrasting beards. PRINCESS BLUEBEARD (Willott '91) is a prime example; beards are medium blue against pink to blue-pink standards and falls. CHANTED (Blyth '90) is more of a peach pink with strong blue beards and is proving to be a great parent for color and beard. FIRE ISLAND (Sindt '89) is white with yellow hafts and a tangerine beard. DARK VADER (R & L. Miller '87) is a ruffled blue-black with very bushy blue beards; its blossoms are also what I am always looking for in form, round, ruffled and flaring. SERENITY PRAYER (P. Dyer '89), creamy yellow with bright blue beards, is a remake of the older variety BLUEBERRY MUFFINS (Warburton '63) but with far superior flower form. JOE COOL (Aitken '91) is a combination of cool colors—white standards and very pale blue falls with hot beards of tangerine. Other SDBs without spots and with not-so-contrasty beards are TWEETY BIRD (Black '92), a perky yellow with lots of ruffles, LITTLE SHOWOFF (Hall '89), an icy blue self that does rebloom (extra bonus), VIOLET WOOD (Lankow '90), with well-rounded blossoms of light blue-violet, and TORCHY (Shoop '89)—the tangerine beards put this bright orange almost on fire.

Plicatas in the SDBs have been making great progress. ROYAL DECREE (Nichols '91) is a lovely formed purple plic on a white ground. TRANSCRIBE (Black '90) has a wide band of grape plicata markings set against the white ground. INPUT (Hager '90) is one of his small flowered SDBs, with rich amber-yellow standards and yellow falls heavily marked brown. LITTLE SPRINKLE (Vizvarie '92) is a bright gold dotted deep plum. One of the brightest colored ones I've seen to date is FIRESTORM of Marky Smith's, bright gold ground heavily marked burgundy. BROKEN HALO (Black '91) is white with light violet plicata marks and an added chartreuse edge to the falls; ANGEL'S HALO (L. Miller '91) is similar but its falls are almost totally white except for a few plic lines at the shoulders. Some have veins running the complete length of the petals, like CONFUSED (L. Miller '92) which is veined violet and banded chartreuse. Others are more of what we refer to as washes, an overlay of color like MUPPET MADNESS (Black '91), which is white irregularly washed red-purple. If you are interested in hybridizing plicatas in SDBs, CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85) is a must in light violet-blue with chartreuse veins. Almost all of the new plicatas coming on the market that have round, ruffled form are coming from CHUBBY CHEEKS—a must if you want to breed round, ruffled form.

Another color pattern available in SDBs is the luminata. This pattern only comes in blue to violet shades; the interior of the blossoms are pale in contrast to the darker exterior shades. Two fine examples are TROUBADOUR'S SONG (Black '91), violet with white luminata markings, and GEMSTAR (M. Smith '94), medium blue-violet with white luminata markings—blossoms are well-proportioned and round.

Some SDBs have very striking color contrasts between the standards and the falls. WUNDERKIND (Hager '90) contrasts gold standards against velvety dark maroon-red falls, while WHAT AGAIN (Ensminger '91) has wisteria blue standards and an odd shade of golden straw falls; an extra bonus is that it is a reliable rebloomer. SPLIT DECISION (Hobbs '89) is the nearest to an amoena SDB; standards are very near white, falls blue-violet with a wire rim of white around the edge.

Green is gaining in popularity and the SDBs have their share of greens. CHARTREUSE MOUSSE (Bohrer '88) is yellow-green with pale brown spots. GREEN GIZMO (Vizvarie '92) has cream standards over lime green falls. KIWI SLICES (Niswonger '90) is well described by its name, chartreuse with burgundy ray spot on the falls. LIME MIST (Willott '88) is mostly white with a green wash on the falls. Then there is SEA MONSTER (L. Miller '93), which has sky blue standards and intense medium green falls.

Many people prefer brilliant colors so they can be seen from a distance. Yellow and bright orange tones fill this bill best. OVER EASY (Lankow '90) has creamy standards that are brightly contrasted with brilliant canary yellow falls. SHOW ME YELLOW (Anderson '90) is a yellow bitone, while WAKE UP (Black '89) wakes you up with its glowing yellow self-color. LIGHTEN UP (L. Miller '89), while a light canary yellow, always caught my eye when I walked through the beds. NEON PIXIE (L. Miller '90) is hard for anyone to overlook because of the neon pink coloring with the tangerine beards. The all-time brightest blossoms in the sun have been on ORANGE TIGER (B. Jones '88), an outstanding orange self.

The following are a few others I feel must be mentioned because of outstanding form or coloring. ICE AND INDIGO (Willott '91), by far the best formed pale blue with deep blue-violet spots introduced so far, is a must to grow. MAYA MOROCCO (Machulak '90), an unusual smoky purple with darker velvety spots around gold beards, is truly different. NUT RUFFLES (Lankow '92), chestnut brown with small charcoal brown spots, is very round and ruffled. DOWN AND DIRTY (Bohrer '92) is so brown that if it weren't for the red-violet spot you wouldn't see it against a bare soil background. LEARN (Innerst '90) is a warm pink, while KIWI CAPERS (Niswonger '90) is a jazzed-up pink with ruffles and plum-violet rays on the falls. PATACAKE (Black '89) may not be the brightest orange but the creamy orange color is very pleasing in the garden. TANGERINE TANGENT (Black '90) may seem oddly named until you look past the medium purple hues to see the tangerine beard.

Of course there are many older varieties that are still good, but the progress in form the SDBs have made in the last five years would amaze people who have grown only the older varieties. Likewise, the new color patterns or even self colors have made huge advancements in the last five years. With SDBs carrying the genes of the *I. pumila* spot pattern, the combination of colors is endless. Very easy to grow, extremely winter hardy and producing an abundance of bloom in a short period of time, for a perennial in hundreds of colors and patterns—what more can you ask for in an iris as a perennial? Sorry! They don't plant or weed themselves, but what flower does?

THE INTERMEDIATE BEARDED IRIS

Dave Niswonger (Missouri)

Most of the present day intermediate irises are the result of crossing a standard dwarf bearded iris with a tall bearded iris. They are called intermediates because of their height (16 to 27 inches or 41 to 70 cms) and the fact that they bloom generally between the standard dwarf irises and the tall bearded irises. Some are earlier blooming than others, and some have smaller blooms nearer to the dwarfs and others have blooms nearer the border bearded irises. There is diversity in this group which is good, but our classification system isn't always refined enough to convey what the irises are really like.

Of the bearded irises, these are probably the most easily grown (some enthusiasts may debate me on this). They are hardy, resisting damage from freezes and sharp changes in the weather, vigorous, disease resistant and dependable bloomers. Some flower shows could hardly make it without them as illustrated in the season of 1993 when we had a late season. Flower lovers in the Plains States love them because they can take the wind. Because of their size, they work well in arrangements.

From the hybridizing standpoint, they are becoming the stepping stone to new and improved color combinations. They are usually considered to be sterile because of their complex genetic background which may cause some hybridizers to overlook them.

Let me digress for a moment to explain. The standard dwarf bearded (SDBs) are the result of crossing the dwarf *pumilas* which have four groups of chromosomes (tetraploids) with eight chromosomes in each group, with tall bearded (TBs) that also have four groups of chromosomes, but have twelve in each group. This means the SDBs have two groups with eight and two groups with twelve chromosomes, totaling forty, as compared to the *pumilas* with a thirty-two count and the TBs with a forty-eight count. Border bearded irises also have a forty-eight count and can be used just like the TBs. In fact, some hybridizers would prefer to use BBs in order to lean to the smaller sized SDBs and ultimately to smaller sized IBs. SDBs and IBs are essentially "man-made." Hand pollination has accelerated nature by hundreds of years.

Now the next step in developing an IB is to cross an SDB with a TB or a BB. When we do this, we get an iris with three groups of twelve chromosomes and one group with eight chromosomes making the count of forty-four chromosomes. This fact presents a problem of infertility because when the plant attempts to make pollen or an egg, it must split the chromosomes in half. To be fertile it must be able to pair up with equal chromosomes and they like to stick with their own group originating from the *pumilas* or TBs. So, you have an odd number of chromosomes floating around somewhere with nothing to connect to, and fertilization can't take place. But, experience has shown that this is not necessarily true. There are fertile intermediates. Hybridizers must experiment to see which ones are fertile (this is where it helps to belong to a Robin). It is quite possible and possibly probable that when an odd set of eight and an odd set of twelve are forced to pair up to whatever extent they can (perhaps with similar DNA

sequences), there are either gene exchanges or whole chromosome exchanges or crossovers of chromosomes that happen and they are fertile. It's when these accidents happen that we get a break and new colors, patterns and forms are possible.

After that long digression, let me continue my point that intermediates can serve as a stepping stone. For a long time we have been trying to improve the width, substance and quality of pink SDBs. Great advances have been made in this regard by using IBs by several hybridizers. George Shoop of Oregon used BRIGHT VISION ('83), an SDB, with BLUSHES ('84), an IB, to get PINK CAPER ('86). Some critics would argue that BLUSHES is not a true IB because it doesn't have a TB as a parent. In other words, its phenotype is that of an IB but its genotype is that of an SDB. But, George has now crossed PINK CAPER with SPRING DANCER ('84), which does have a TB in its parentage (CONTRABAND—Shoop '75). This cross resulted in QUEEN'S PRIZE ('93) which is a white SDB with a tangerine beard. He also has THREE TOKENS ('93) out of DANCIN' ('83), an IB which has PEACH SPOT ('73), a TB, as a parent. There is also TICKLES ('93) an SDB that has two parents that are IBs.

Another example as a possible stepping stone is to use the IBs to transfer the pumila spot pattern to the tall bearded irises. This hasn't happened yet, but Barry Blyth of Australia is on his way to that goal. He has an IB, ZING ME ('91), that is fertile. It comes from JAZZAMATAZZ (H. Blyth '88) an SDB, crossed with a seedling from two TBs; namely, EMBASSADORA (Blyth '79) and EVENING ECHO (Hamblen '77). Its standards are creamy lemon, and the falls are creamy white with a lemon edge and a brown circular area around a large bushy brown beard. He has crossed ZING ME with several TBs and has very interesting results with many showing the spot pattern in different colors including maroon and violet. Who knows what this sort of breeding will bring? But I know it's going to be something unusual and different.

Lloyd Zurbrigg of North Carolina has a beautiful deep bitone daffodil yellow (Sdlg. LL24#1) out of I BLESS (Zurbrigg '85), an IB, crossed with MARMALADE SKIES (Niswonger '78), a BB. It reblooms too. Lloyd thinks it may also be fertile. I will be blooming seedlings out of ORANGE PETALS (Niswonger '91), an IB, and PRINCE OF BURGUNDY (Niswonger '93), also an IB. ORANGE PETALS may have the phenotype for an IB but its genotype could be that of an SDB since it is out of ORIENTAL BLUSH (Willott '81), an SDB. But wait, ORIENTAL BLUSH has DOVE WINGS (Roberts '68) as one of its parents, which was registered as an SDB. But, it has the genotype of an IB. But just looking at ORANGE PETALS, it looks like it could have come from MARMALADE SKIES. Could I have gotten the seed mixed up? So, ORANGE PETALS still could have the genotype of an IB from two viewpoints but a slight chance of an SDB or BB. This could blow your mind, but I do have twenty-four seedlings to bloom from a chance of pollinated cross next spring. PRINCE OF BURGUNDY, an IB, was purposely crossed with an IB seedling (IB18-92) out of CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85), an SDB. There will be nine seedlings to bloom from this cross next spring which should produce some outstanding IB plicatas. PRINCE OF BURGUNDY also set seed from a bee cross in 1993. Seed from an intermediate doesn't always germinate very well, but since I already have seedlings from it, there is a good chance they will germinate. Sometimes it may take the second year to get germination.

Bee Warburton pointed out in *Medianite* Vol. 25 No. 3, Fall/Winter 1984, that "It is advisable when using IBs in crosses with either SDBs or the TBs, both of which have balanced chromosome compositions and hence usually fertile pollen, to make crosses with the IBs as pod parents, since their pollen, which may look perfectly fertile, will only rarely set seed on anything." So, this is something to keep in mind; however, in my experience, some pollen from IBs is fertile.

Because of the vigor of IBs, many of them are dependable rebloomers. A good selection of IBs can be made by looking at recent AM and Sass Medal winners.

In the beginning of this article, I said "most" of the IBs come from crossing an SDB with a TB, but there are other backgrounds of IBs. Again, we may have the phenotype fitting our classification system of height and time of blooming for IBs. Different forms of *I. aphylla* have been used for many years to produce irises that fit the IB classification. Bee Warburton, along with others, used *I. aphylla* quite extensively. More recently, Jim and Vicki Craig of Oregon, have used *I. aphylla* to improve branching and bud count in IBs. These IBs have forty-eight chromosomes and are as fertile as TBs. The Craigs have used about six forms of *I. aphylla* but have settled on two or three. They have used *I. aphylla* wine red and *I. aphylla* Werckmeister more than the others. REFORMATION (J.&V. Craig '89) is a good example of an IB from "Werckmeister" background. The standards are antique white and the falls have a violet center with a lighter color around the edge. TAKEOFF (J.&V. Craig '91) is a good example of "wine red," however, it also has "Werckmeister" in it. It has pale blue violet standards and medium violet falls, darker at the hafts, with a dark yellow beard tipped blue. Older *aphylla* hybrids were crossed with older TBs, and the results did not produce as well formed blooms as those resulting from the use of today's modern TBs. The Craigs have been at this for twenty years, so their results are getting quite refined. They have most of the colors except orange. LUSCIOUS LASS (J.&V. Craig '90) is oxblood red.

Along this same line, the Willotts of Ohio have gone back and crossed select *pumilas* of known capabilities with modern TBs to get improved SDBs. Carrying this idea a step further, using this type of an SDB with new modern day TBs should give even more diversity in color and form than we have had in the past in IBs.

Gardeners often complain about modern-day irises not being as hardy as the old timers. I don't believe I have heard this complaint about intermediates. Everyone should grow some!

BORDER BEARDED IRISES

(Where have we been?

Where are we now?

Where are we going?)

Lynn Markham (Massachusetts)

The concept originated with breeders of the 1940s who were finding small replicas among their tall bearded seedlings and noting that while they had little chance in competition with their larger brethren (even then the "bigger is better" concept had a firm foothold among judges and collectors), they had a visual appeal of their own. They also offered several advantages in the garden: they didn't overwhelm a mixed perennial bed; they didn't blow over in spring winds; when cut, they didn't require a vase the size of the Empire State Building. Geddes Douglas, one of our foremost median iris pioneers, coined the term "border iris," suggestive of both the size and the use potential of these charming plants.

The first standard for border irises was submitted to The American Iris Society in 1949 and finally accepted by the Society in 1958. It read as follows: "Plants 16-27 inches tall; stalks branched, stiffly erect; leaves erect and shorter than the bloomstalk; blooms larger than the miniature tall bearded but preferably smaller than those of the tall bearded." The standard, of course, was tailored to fit the plants then available—border bearded specialists have since had reason to regret the use of the word "preferably" in connection with flower size, since one of the most difficult problems has been the inclusion in the class of large-flowered short irises which are not in fact very graceful.

Once the class had been established, certain older plants, registered either as tall bearded or in a catch-all "intermediate" class, were recognized as border irises. The still-popular antique diploids, variegata HONORABILE (IB—Lemon 1840) and small orchid-pink PINK RUFFLES (K. Smith 1940) are examples, although the former is so small that it was ultimately redesignated MTB. But it was obvious even then that the future of the border bearded (like the future of its TB counterpart) lay in the enhanced variability of the tetraploids, and these were the source material for the class as it exists today. Early selections included the intense black-purple BLACK FOREST (TB—Schreiner '44), which has proven an important progenitor for the border class, and SPINDRIFT (TB—Loomis '29), an early tangerine pink. SPINDRIFT itself and, in fact, most tangerine pink lines have produced good small irises—a boon for BB breeders.

Two of the earliest "official" border bearded introductions were Harold Knowlton's PEARL CUP, a lovely pastel amoena, and CRICKET, a variegata, both introduced in 1958. Actually, they were registered in 1950 as "IBs," but reclassified when the border bearded class was accepted by AIS and introduced as BBs. Harold Knowlton was one of the first to deliberately select and breed for this class and both of these were well-proportioned, vigorous and deservedly popular; PEARL CUP still grows in at least one New England garden that I know of. The highest section award available to border bearded irises, the Knowlton Medal, is named for this far-sighted BB enthusiast and breeder.

Other notables from this period were the aptly named metallic brown CHOCOLETO ('59) from Crescent Deru and two from Margaret Albright, YUM YUM, a rosy pink, and YELLOW DRESDEN, a ruffled lemon-yellow. Both of these were registered in 1956 as "IB" and introduced as such by Tell Muhlestein; their classification was changed when the new class was accepted and in fact, YELLOW DRESDEN was the recipient of the very first Knowlton Award (predecessor of the Knowlton Medal). Both of these irises figure heavily in the pedigrees of later quality BBs, particularly YELLOW DRESDEN, whose good small progeny are legion. Equally fine were Bennett Jones' FRENCHI ('59), with orchid-pink standards and rose-violet falls, and the Sass-Graham variety JUNGLE SHADOWS (actually introduced in 1960), a smoky blend; both of these can still be found in today's gardens.

Enthusiasm ran high in the '60s. BB Hybridizing Robin #1 was an important line of communication, but there was voluminous correspondence and plant-swapping among individual breeders as well. It was apparent that the concentrated efforts of many would be needed in order to establish a broad hybridizing base, and breeders were extremely generous in sharing both their plants and their breeding experience.

At the same time, it was obvious that our standard presented some problems. There were still no specifications for flower size, let alone any for the narrower foliage and slimmer stems needed to balance the "preferred" smaller blossoms. As a result, too many ungainly "big shorties" were gaining favor from TB judges who were understandably fond of big flowers and tended to overlook proportion and balance. When the standard was redrafted in 1965, no important prescriptive changes were made, but the narrative section was written by Bee Warburton, whose sense of the appropriate in small irises was impeccable, and greater attention was given to these matters in a general way. About the same time, BB breeders undertook to literally analyze the elements of good balance and commit them to a "formula;" this was presented in *Medianite* in 1967 and in short, it suggested that flower size (height plus diameter) should be no more than 9" and that the corresponding stalk height should be approximately 3 times the flower size. Recommendations were also made regarding foliage width and stem configuration. Most of the BB breeders with whom I have contact today still feel that some such prescription is appropriate; it has not, however, made it into the standard.

Another knotty problem was vigor. Whereas certain BBs were very satisfactory plants, many were "miffy." That problem, too, has persisted, and it appears to be because while some plants are genetically small and otherwise perfectly normal, others are small only because they lack the "oomph" to get larger. These, incidentally, are often the "BBs" which when given optimum (or better) conditions, suddenly get happy and emerge as full-fledged TBs!

Problems notwithstanding, great progress was made in the '60s. The first Knowlton Medal winner, golden yellow TULARE, was Melba Hamblen's 1961 introduction. It is still on the Median Iris Society's popularity poll today and has been an outstanding parent. Bennett Jones' contributions were many, including the salmon pink PAGODA ('61), the beautiful "Emma Cook-patterned" CRYSTAL BAY ('66) and the lovely blue BOTANY BAY ('67). CRYSTAL BAY, incidentally, is one of the earliest well-balanced small irises deriving directly or indirectly from Paul Cook's legendary PROGENITOR, a seedling of *I. reichen-*

bachii, giving a hint of the potential value of the several tetraploid dwarf species not only in providing new patterns, but also in controlling both size and plant habit in the BB class.

Myrtle Wolff's DEBBIE ANN, a really dainty iris in off-white, and its equally small, deep violet sib TIMMIE TOO, both derived directly from BLACK FOREST, were introduced in 1962 and formed a basis for one of the few actual "BB lines" in existence. Marilyn Sheaff's LITTLE LYNN, a tiny clear pink, appeared in 1962 as well; it is still widely grown and has been an exceptional parent. Other stick-outs of the period were Bee Warburton's peachy pink LACE VALENTINE ('65), May Belle Wright's MISS RUFFLES ('67) in blended blue, and Tell Muhlestein's well-named siblings, SAUCY PEACH ('60) and SAUCY PINK ('66). These, as well as LACE VALENTINE, were products of a seemingly fool-proof cross, GOLDEN FLASH X YELLOW DRESDEN.

The surge continued into the early '70s. Keith Keppel's dainty variegata-plicata MEXICALI appeared in 1970, followed by the white-ground plic EMBROIDERY in 1971. 1972 brought Myrtle Wolff's classic deep purple TANYA ELIZABETH, perfectly balanced and an excellent grower as well. May Belle Wright introduced the light yellow and cream confection MISS PETITE in 1973, a seedling of MISS RUFFLES and a vast improvement. Joe Ghio's PASSPORT ('71), in blue-white with an interesting blue "blot" on the falls, and the bluer COPY CAT ('74) in similar pattern were among the first commercial products of experimental breeding of cultivars with *I. balkana*, and Ben Hager's CONJURE ('70), a deep maroon self, involved still another tetraploid dwarf species, *I. aphylla*. My own pure white LITTLE LYNN seedling, ANGEL FEATHERS, a well-balanced plant and a fine parent, was introduced in 1973. And in 1975, Dave Niswonger introduced the beautifully proportioned Buckles variety BROWN LASSO, destined to climb the awards ladder all the way to the top—the first and to date the only border bearded to win the Dykes Medal.

BB-breeding suffered a set-back in the mid '70s which is reflected in the registrations; of approximately 550 BBs registered from 1960 through 1979, only about 75 (14%) were from '75 through '79. Several factors were responsible. Many breeders found the class frustrating to pursue, and they can hardly be blamed. It is discouraging to raise a progeny of 100 or so BB hopefuls and find that only one (or none) really fits the class. Others defected to non-iris commitments. Perhaps most significant was the loss of May Belle Wright, who more than anyone else seemed on the edge of unlocking the secrets of the class and was perhaps its most avid champion. May Belle passed away shortly after the introduction of one of her best, PINK KEWPIE ('76). Fortunately, much of her breeding stock passed into the extremely capable hands of Carol Lankow, who made excellent use of it herself as well as sharing it with other breeders.

But despite the attrition in the "old guard," some important things happened in the late '70s. Keith Keppel's yellow-ground plicata PICAYUNE ('77) was an important advance. One of Melba Hamblen's best, SIENNA STAR, a creamy apricot confection with burnt sienna beards, also appeared in 1977. Ben Hager's beautiful PINK BUBBLES (R. '79, I. '80) is a real achievement, and his SOMETHING SPECIAL ('78) is one of the most attractive and most dependable BB pinks even now. Burch's MISS NELLIE, a '79 registration introduced in 1983, is the new standard for vigor in this class, whether or not you fully appreciate its

rather “loud” variegata pattern. Dave Niswonger’s MARMALADE SKIES (’78), a blended apricot, is another irrepressible grower and probably one of the best breeders the class has ever produced, and we’re fortunate indeed that Dave’s interests now include medians! Allan Ensminger hit the jackpot in this period too, with the small TB PURPLE STREAKER (R. ’79; I. ’81), sporting a new blotched pattern in blue on white which is epitomized in its outstanding BB seedling, BATIK (’86). Carol Lankow’s SOUNDER (’79), a pale blue reverse bitone gem owing much to the species *I. aphylla* judiciously worked into the pedigree, has proved an extremely good parent as well as a fine garden plant. And Myrtle Wolff, one of the few of the “old guard” still working in the class, produced not only ANGELA (’77), a red-bearded white, and JANE ANN (’79), a lovely clear pink, during this period, but also three other excellent pinks, all in class and all beautiful. A cross of ANGELA X JANE ANN produced another gorgeous gang of pinks and tangerine bearded pastels in the ’80s and early ’90s, and Myrtle must surely get the prize for both persistence and success with the less-than-simple undertaking of breeding border irises!

The ’80s and early ’90s have seen a new ground-swell of activity in the class. Building further upon PICAYUNE and other small segregants from his plicata breeding, Keith Keppel has “kept on coming” with things like the fancies PEC-CADILLO (’83) and SHENANIGAN (’85) and the beautiful blue plicata PETITE BALLET (’92). SHRIMP BOAT, a confection in light apricot-pink from Joe Gatty, was introduced by Keith in 1992 following Joe’s untimely death. Dave Niswonger’s line, incorporating Jean Stevens’ fascinating cocoa-pink amoena TB SUNSET SNOWS (’65) and some of the outstanding bicolor productions of Australian breeder Barry Blyth, has brought forth some wonderful pink and peach amoena types including PEACHES ’N TOPPING (’81), PEACH PETALS (’87) and the crowning achievement, APRICOT FROSTY (’92), which along with excellent flower and stem qualities has unusual vigor. Carl Boswell’s offerings include FROSTY PASTEL (’81), a subtle lilac/pink/white blend, and the lacy LADY CREAM (’89), the latter tracing to good old YUM YUM. Ben Hager’s cherry-bearded white, SPITFIRE (’93), has all the earmarks of a BB winner. Allan Ensminger’s rosy-toned ZINC PINK (’87) is deservedly popular. Carol Lankow hit again in ’89 with CALICO CAT, a pastel verison of MISS NELLIE with equally good proportions and vigor. The loss of Carol as a breeder of median irises was cataclysmic, but fortunately Terry Aitken, another hybridizer with talent and vision, has taken her projects under his wing, broadening his own already considerable perspective. The legacy from Carol is gradually appearing on the scene; meanwhile, Terry’s own accomplishments have already impressed both specialists and “just iris growers.” His really good BBs include the amply ruffled deep purple MAUI MAGIC and the cool lemon ISLAND CHARM (both ’91) from straight TB/BB breeding, but perhaps more important, the beautifully branched and vigorous neglecta KONA NIGHTS (’92), which is from the fertile IB HELLCAT and represents a new approach to the subject. Hal Stahly is another breeder who has added substantially to the BB “gene pool” in recent years, with the sultry dark purple DRUM SOLO (’80) followed by deep red FIDDLER (’84) and tangerine-bearded dark wine IGNITION (’89). FIDDLER is a parent of IGNITION and both are producing wonderful color and flower quality as well as a high percentage of BB-scale plants in their progenies. Tony and Dorothy Willott

have made a major contribution recently with two very good plants in the cream-ground plicata class, BROWNBERRY ('87) and NORTH COAST ('89), both seedlings of PICAYUNE.

This is by no means the entire roster of good recent border irises. In ones, twos and series they are now coming from every corner of the continent and overseas, and I find it extremely encouraging that there are now too many to discuss in one article! From the beginning, the primary problems confronting breeders in this class have been the narrow scope of available breeding material and the inconsistency of results, not exactly surprising in a class which began with so few plants and so little knowledge of their breeding behavior! The class could not begin to grow geometrically until it could be depended upon to reproduce itself reliably—the difficult question has been how to accomplish that. But in the '90s, I fully expect to see it happen. Patterns are now discernible in breeding lines, so that breeders can deliberately select parent stock which will produce the desired type. The dwarf species *I. aphylla*, *I. balkana* and *I. reichenbachii* have been incorporated into the gene pool, contributing both their color and pattern and their diminutive flower and plant proportions to our breeding stock, and the species work of people like Jim and Vicki Craig is providing still further material of this type. The tetraploid MTB work of adventurous and determined breeders like Ben Hager is being tapped as well, and preliminary results from several breeders are extremely promising. Another important source is the experimental work of people like Terry Aitken and Marky Smith with the marginally fertile IBs. As in the early '60s, enthusiasm runs high and the communication lines among breeders are wide open. Never have we had so much diverse material to work with, so many talented people involved, or so much reason to expect success! In 1993 for the first time, I had the pleasure of evaluating large progenies in which the majority, rather than one or two plants, were in proper scale, and other breeders are obtaining similar results. Needless to say, the best of a large group is going to be far better than the best of a small one, and I predict that the class *will* now grow geometrically, finally fulfilling the promise that its creators recognized so long ago.

The deficiencies of the BB standard still remain to be dealt with. The present one prescribes flower size but only in terms of width (4-5"), not in terms of overall size or mass. It alludes to a reduction of flower size in proportion to height, but otherwise contains even less guidance with regard to overall proportion and balance than did the 1965 version, and there are still too many "big shorties" being registered as border irises. Many breeders would still like to see the subject addressed as was proposed in 1967; perhaps eventually it will be. In the meantime, the advent of more and more "correct" border bearded plants may of itself rectify the problem. The ungainly and/or "miffy" so-called border bearded varieties of the past, even those which enjoyed fleeting popularity and won some awards, have not stood the test of time; much less will they succeed today when gardeners have so many better choices!

SURVEY OF RECENT MINIATURE TALL BEARDED REGISTRATIONS

Jean Witt (Washington)

MTB achievements of the late 1980s and early 1990s continue to spell progress for the class, broadening the color spectrum and improving the flower form while drawing from diverse backgrounds, diploid and tetraploid, old and new. Breeding to the MTB formula of well branched, slender, graceful stems between 16 and 25 inches tall (21" optimum) and a flower in which width plus height equals no more than six inches continues to be a challenge, but breeders are finding the answer in many different directions. The first "Table Irises" emerged from diploid bearded breeding, and most of today's varieties are still coming from this background. Our only pink MTBs have been developed from tetraploid lines. More recently Jim and Vicki Craig have been giving us colors other than pink, with *I. amphylla* in their background.

Apparently there is no end to the number of species and classes of smaller bearded irises which can be incorporated into the MTB mix. Take *I. astrachanica*, a small red-violet flowered Russian species sent to Bee Warburton by Dr. Rodionenko. By crossing it with an MTB seedling, Bee produced her amoena TYKE (1985—HM '88). For Terry Varner it gave ASTRA GIRL ('89), a well branched white with an extra large number of stalks per clump. Using *plicata* pollen, I obtained *plicatas* in the F1—something I wasn't really expecting. It looks as if *I. astrachanica* is going to be very useful for slimming stems and reducing the size of larger things; and coming from Russia, it should bequeath additional hardiness (not that this is usually a problem with MTBs).

John J. Taylor of Bigfork, Montana, has managed to bring in a new blood by combining several species into a single plant. The background of FOURSOME ('92), white with standards and falls veined blue, includes *I. imbricata*, *I. timofejewii*, *I. reichenbachii* and *I. variegata*, while is TRIPLICITY ('92) involves the same first three without *I. variegata*, and is multi-colored as well as multi-parented. Its copper-bronze standards are touched with purple at the tip and yellow at the base, while the slightly paler falls are washed with red-purple on the blades and reticulated brown beside the gold beards. Let's hope they are fertile!

From the Craigs' *I. aphylla* lines have come RAVE REVIEW ('91), a ruffled and flaring light lavender with bright pinkish-red beards, and LITTLE MISTY ('90), a bitone with pale grayed lavender standards, medium lavender-blue falls and a beard tipped in pale lavender. My favorite of their introductions is SUNSHINY (1987—HM '89), an early blooming, well branched yellow which enables us to advance the MTB season by a couple of weeks.

Other species still making a contribution are *I. cengialtii*, found in the background of Terry Varner's QUIET PLACE (1988—HM '91), a medium blue self with a white beard; and *I. reginae* behind his LADY DI (1988—HM '91), a lightly ruffled blue-violet with a blue beard, a halo of white whiskers and a yellow throat. Blues from the usual diploid MTB route include SEA BABY (H. Rowlan '90),

hyacinth blue with a paler edge and a yellow board. This comes from PEWEE selfed, lending support to my long-held suspicion that PEWEE is dominant rather than recessive white. His PETITE LADY ('89) has blue-white standards blending to pale blue on the edges, wisteria blue falls and a white beard. My SKY BRITE ('92), a ruffled light blue with conspicuous purple leaf bases, has a special sparkle to the flowers and comes from several generations of my blue MTBs, named and seedling. From Mary Louise Dunderman come CAROL'S DREAM ('89), a ruffled light blue with a yellow beard, and TODD ('91), dark violet blue with a blue signal and a blue beard, tipped white. BANGLES (L. Miller '93), in the amethyst to medium blue range with gold beards, and THERAPY (T. Varner '93), in medium lavender with a white splash around the yellow beards, are the latest additions to this group.

Norrick's gold and near-black BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (1985—HM '88—first Williamson-White Medal '93) has set a standard for variegata MTB that is hard to beat, but this color class is infinitely varied, running the gamut from solid falls to striped, with or without contrasting edges. Dorothy Guild's ROSE CAPER ('89) comes in yellow and rose, Ann Probst's PRETTY QUIRKY ('91) has orange standards, bright red-orange falls with an orange signal and orange beards. Guild's FLASHY FLIRT ('89) has yellow-orange standards and cream-white falls with red-brown veining running from the hafts to the wire edging of yellow, set off with a tangerine-orange beard. The standards in DESERT SHIELD (T. Varner '90) are yellow, barely edged violet, while the falls are yellow overlaid velvety dark violet. Terry Varner also has a series of richly colored variegata-plics coming along, with yellow standards and falls variously plicata-dotted in red or red-brown—much more intense colors than earlier examples of this pattern. Watch for them.

In amoenas, FROSTED VELVET (K. Fisher 1988—HM '91) has white standards and a precise white edge to the royal purple falls, while ANDRINA (Witt '90) has white standards, and falls striped and tipped violet. MINI WABASH (R. Probst '93) has the usual white standards, but on the falls, purple veins fan out from the yellow beard toward a narrow edge of lighter purple.

Browns are ubiquitous, yet no two are alike. Rowlan's PETITE DOLL ('90) has brown standards and brown-over-yellow falls with a yellow beard. In BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '91) the standards are blended golden brown; falls sport golden hafts and an iridescent purple wash through the center. ROSY IMAGE (Bausch '91) is a grayed red-brown with gold hafts, gold style arms and a bright gold beard. My COPPER TIPS ('90) is slightly bitone in medium orange/gold/rust, with an echo of the fall pattern on the inside of the standards. The next generation produced a medium red-brown self, slightly ruffled, and the latest in this line is a ruffled blend with orchid standards and falls strikingly striped red-violet on white—now how to reduce the size somewhat without losing the bold pattern and the ruffle! Dorothy Guild has given up her garden, but she leaves us a long legacy of vivid blends and rich browns of which the most recent are BROWNIE FLY-UP ('88), an orange-bearded brown; DUSTY RUFFLES ('89), standards dusky tannish-violet, falls medium orchid-rose brightened by yellow-orange hafts and a yellow-orange beard; and SECOND CHANCE ('89), light to medium brown standards with greenish midribs and orchid-violet falls, edged brown, with a yellow-green reverse. The newest in this color class are BOLD IMP

(Fisher '93), with red-brown standards and deep red falls with orange beards, and TAN CHEEKS (J. Durrance '93), in tawny apricot with henna beards—sounds eye-catching!

Plicatas are particularly numerous among MTBs and the color range is extensive. In OZARK SKY (Fisher '88), the standards and falls are stitched lavender-blue, really very blue in effect; beard is orange. Dunderman's CHERRY (1989—HM '91) has nearly solid violet standards and falls with a narrow stitching of violet plus a violet spot and brown/orange beards. PETITE ONE (Rowlan '89) has cream standards with a heavy violet overlay, yellow styles with a violet crest, creamy white falls stitched violet and a yellow beard. In DOTTIE JOY (Witt '87) the creamy ground marked with orchid dotting gives a very pink effect, matching the red-violet tinting on the spathes. MANISSES (T. Varner '87—HM '90) is a white and blue-violet amoena plic, very neat and contrasty. Slightly fragrant SHEER ROYALTY (T. Varner '92) has medium purple standards with a sanded midrib and falls banded and sanded purple over white with a purple signal. KAITLIN (Guild '89) has dusky yellow standards faintly dotted red, with brighter yellow running up the edges from the hafts, while the white falls are dotted, veined and splashed with red. In ZULA (K. Fisher '89) the standards are light brown, the white falls veined and edged brown, beard light yellow. PETITE MONET (K. Steele '89) has creamy white standards heavily marked blue-violet and creamy white falls stitched blue-violet, with a yellow beard. ORILLIA'S RING and BRONZE SPRITE (both 1991) are sibs from my garden. The former has bright butter yellow standards and yellow-edged white falls with brown markings, and carries as yellow in the garden. The latter has a limited amount of dark brown marking on a white and yellow ground, including some plicata dotting on the inner surface of the standards; it produces a great many stalks per clump. In SNICKERDOODLE (Opal Wulf '93) the golden yellow standards are dusted cinnamon brown on the edges and midribs, while the white falls are edged and bearded yellow; purple-stained leaf bases are an added attraction.

Clarence Mahan has registered BROWN'S MUTANT in 1993 for the record. This is a yellow and brown plicata-like variant from KALEIDOSCOPE, sport of the venerable variegata HONORABILE. Don't expect modern flower form; however, these erratic things, though not very fertile, are great for pattern variation.

Pale colors seem to have held less attraction for MTB breeders recently. Light orchid SUNBONNET SUE ('91) is the latest of a long line of orchid pinks from Dunderman. Ken Fisher brings us OZARK EVENING ('90), light pink with an apricot beard, from PINK KEWPIE X PUPPY LOVE, as well as BELLA VEE ('90), light yellow with pale orange beard, and OZARK JEWEL ('91) with white standards edged yellow, lemon yellow falls and yellow-orange beard. The background of his STEFFIE ('92), white with a violet spray pattern in the falls and cream beard, includes PINK KEWPIE and PUPPY LOVE as well as diploid ancestors. In MINIATURE ENGRAVING (D.S. Varner '89) the standards are off-white, styles the same edged in lime green; the falls, also off-white, are intricately veined in blue-red and set off by a lime-green beard. ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan '93) is the newest addition to the white selfs.

In darker flowers, PERSIAN LANTERN (Dunderman '90) is red-purple with gold veins at the haft, a wine and cream signal and a bright orange beard.

REMINISCENCE (C. Mahan '92) has violet standards, very pale lavender style arms, velvety plum purple falls reticulated white on the hafts and edged mauve, and a gold beard. OZARK DREAM (K. Fisher '91) is a medium violet and dark purple bitone with a cream beard, and his LASTING MEMORY ('93) a second purple bitone with orange/yellow beards. MARGINAL WAY (T. Sobek '93) is yet another purple bitone, but has a distinctive outer rim of purple on the falls, with an inner rim of lighter violet. DR. MOM (B. Thomason '91) has lavender standards veined darker on the inside, pale lavender styles with dark midribs, and violet falls heavily veined over white at the haft.

Two registrations from New Zealand intrigue me—CYHANTELE and KOTARE (both 1991), from Mrs. F.E. Love. The former has white standards and cream falls with mahogany yellow thumbprint; the latter is a wine-red self. Parentage is SDB GINGERBREAD MAN X BB PICAYUNE. Are these the beginning of yet another route to MTB? Stems and flower size will tell the tale.

Finally, if your taste runs to the exotic, see if you can find a source for CYRIL FIELD, from Mr. Field in England—a lilac blue with style arms decorated in yellow, an orange beard split in two lengthwise, and large blue flounces! Whether or not it is a perfect fit for the MTB class, it should certainly be a conversation piece!

All AIS members are invited to join the Median Iris Society to learn more about the four fascinating classes included in that group. See page 5 of this issue of the Bulletin for membership rates. Send payment to: Deborah Outcalt, Route 1, Box CW-20 Spencer, IN 47460.

PLICATA, LUMINATA— AND GLACIATA?

Keith Keppel (Oregon)

To assess the value of a word, try living without it. To an iris catalogue writer, the word “plicata” is priceless, clarifying even as it conserves space.

When the Median Iris Society's Genetics Study Panel promoted the term “luminata,” the catalogue copy-writer's life was once again made easier.* “Luminata” (and “luminata-plicata” or “lumi-plic,” the combination term for irises carrying both the luminata *and* plicata patterns) helped to promote understanding of the pattern and aid in communication. Two decades later we see the impact of this word action as an increased interest in the pattern. Luminatas are actively sought in many seedling patches, and modern tall bearded luminata varieties are finally coming onto the market.

Time has now come to consider another factor in the complicated hierarchy of plicata breeding: the unmarked segregates from plicata crosses.

Since the plicata factor is recessive, it should be expected that crossing two plicatas would yield nothing but more plicatas. In Nebraska, back in the 1930s, Hans and Jacob Sass found this was not always true. Pure white segregates occurred, as did lemon yellows with an amazing clarity of color. These were dubbed “ice-whites” and “lemon-ices.” But this was just the tip of the “ice”berg, so to speak. We now realize that these “ice” segregates can carry a great variety of carotenoid pigments, extending their color range into the pink and orange tones.

So if we have “plicata” and “luminata,” why not—in view of their “ice” connection—“glaciata?”

Historically, we have no record of the plicata pattern being found in wild bearded irises, but there is a wild “glaciata.” There is a form of *Iris pallida* referred to as ‘WHITE MUTANT’ which qualifies. This diploid white grows among more conventionally colored rosy lavender to lavender sisters in southern Yugoslavia, near the Ombla River. Among tetraploid bearded irises, there has been a small but significant trickle of glaciatas through the years, ever since the Sass’ ice-whites MATTERHORN (’38) and JAKE (’43), and their lemon-ices ELSA SASS (’39) and GOLDEN FLEECE (’40). Jim Gibson added the tangerine factor in SUMMER SILK (’71), a pale orangish-buff. Modern tall-bearded glaciatas include pinkish cream GODDESS (Keppel ’81), yellow and white GRECIAN GODDESS (Maryott ’89), peach and salmon CLASSMATE (Keppel ’91), and white-blazed yellow BURNING BRIGHT (Tompkins ’92). Other bearded classes also contain glaciata examples. ALALOA (Gibson ’59), lemon with white fall patch, is a border bearded. INDEED (Hager ’64) is an intermediate, light lemon and white. Standard dwarfs include the white POPCORN (Hager ’77) and SOFT AIR (Warburton ’73), creamy white with yellowish hafts. Even the miniature dwarf class is represented, by the white INVISIBLE INK (Hager ’84).

Much has been written about the genetics of plicatas, including pl^a allele. (The superscript “a” stands for “all-white” and refers to the glaciata condition.) Those

interested in learning more can start by reading the chapter on Iris Genetics in *The World of Irises*. ** In brief, if an iris is full homozygous for the glaciata gene ($p1^a$), it is incapable of forming even a trace of anthocyanin pigmentation. Anthocyanins are the orchids/lavenders/blues/violets/purples which constitute the “ink” of which plicata markings are made. No anthocyanin formation = no plicata markings.

Glaciatas are readily distinguished to the trained eye. With no anthocyanins, they have no sign of haft markings, not even a single dot. (The white LACED COTTON will breed plicatas when crossed to them, but it is itself a plicata—the most minimally marked one I have yet encountered—for it has a very sparse minute pin-point dotting of orchid deep in the flower’s heart.) Glaciatas are distinguished by the absolute lack of anthocyanins, not by the flower pattern, for patterns can vary dependent upon distribution of the carotenoid (yellow, pink, orange) pigments. Glaciatas can be complete self, although they usually have an overlay of yellow (or pink or orange) on the hafts. This overlay may expand and extend downward and become quite conspicuous. I have seen white seedlings with one-third of the upper fall covered by yellow. Colored luminatas usually have some white below the beards, varying from just a glint to a large white blaze. It seems reasonable to expect that glaciata amoenas are possible: white standards with falls of yellow, pink or orange. We have already seen glaciata seedlings with falls delicately veined paler, like a luminata pattern expressed in the “wrong” range of colors.

In our eight generations of glaciata exploratory breeding, some very interesting seedlings have occurred. With no anthocyanin pigments to mask the carotenoid pigments, extreme clarity of color is achieved. (Unfortunately much of this work was simply to explore color, with other issues side-stepped, so most were not “good” plants.) The most intense lemon yellow seen was a glaciata seedling (with insufficient buds). One glaciata (no buds, poor stem) was a deep egg-yolk yellow . . . not the pale yellow of store-bought eggs, but the dark yellow of spring eggs when the chickens have been allowed to run loose and eat their fill of fresh greens. I have seen glaciatas with pink color fully as good as BEVERLY SILLS (again poor stems, no buds, AND flagrantly biodegradable) and oranges the color of orange gum drops.

We now need to unite these clear and striking colors with good garden plants. Having a specific term for this genetic grouping will at least make it easier to talk about the project.

Glaciata?

*Luminata—Fancy in the Altogether. *Bulletin* 205, April 1972, p. 19-24

**The Plicata Locus, p. 399-401.

WHY HELLCAT?

Terry Aitken (Washington)

HELLCAT was but a tiny impulse in the larger scheme of things. Friends in the iris world have accused me of making a career out of MYSTIQUE seedlings. This is entirely correct, as we have raised literally thousands of plants through four or five generations, all starting from MYSTIQUE pollen! There is every likelihood that this wave will continue on into the 21st century as five or six more great-great grandchildren of MYSTIQUE (of introduction quality) showed up in the 1990 crop of seedlings.

This obsession began with our first block of seedlings out of (NAVY STRUT x MYSTIQUE) back in 1979. Compared to other seedling blocks, I was quite overwhelmed by the overall quality of every seedling in the block. I have never seen anything like it. Very healthy foliage, sturdy stems, clean colors, good flower form, heavy substance, lots of buds, fragrant and fertile! Before that bloom season was over, I had decided to "test the limits" of MYSTIQUE'S capabilities as a parent.

One of these directions was to carry MYSTIQUE down into the median classes. MYSTIQUE is one of the earliest TBs to bloom for us, so we still had late blooming SDBs around. The best of these for all around quality and compatible colors was HOCUS POCUS. (Since MYSTIQUE is pod sterile, we have to collect pollen and cross it onto other plants.) Three seedlings were raised. One died the first year, a second failed to bloom the second year, and HELLCAT. It was labelled a reselect with the first flower to open. In succeeding seasons, HELLCAT performed consistently and well, was introduced, behaved well away from home and worked its way through the awards system to the SASS medal.

We tried many IB crosses with MYSTIQUE pollen and most produced introduction quality plants. We went straight to our top-of-the line breeders. COTTON BLOSSOM x MYSTIQUE produced SNOWCONE. RAINDANCE x MYSTIQUE produced BUBBLY BLUE. The next generation also came into play with the cross of BEAU x SEAWOLF (Navy Strut x Mystique) which produced PATCHES ON PARADE, and RAINDANCE x SEAWOLF which produced NIGHT SHIFT. In several cases, the only difference between the introductions and the compost was bud count. Overall quality was wonderful and we highly recommend this type of cross for the aspiring beginning hybridizer.

What comes next? Explore HELLCAT's potential as a parent. We crossed HELLCAT with our best SDBs—DIXIE PIXIE and QUEEN'S PAWN, and we now have MYSTIQUE genes in our SDB lines. Reselect plants from both crosses carried exceptional characteristics.

As is our habit, whenever an exceptional seedling like HELLCAT shows up, we go back and remake the cross to see what else may show up in a larger population. Many interesting blends, washes and bitones appeared, but they all fell short of HELLCAT for flower form. Eventually they were all discarded as we moved on to the next generation.

Other hybridizers went to work with HELLCAT. Carol Lankow and Chad Harris both used it back with TBs to produce border irises. All three of us now have the image of HELLCAT ready to go in the BB class. For me, HELLCAT was

a difficult breeder; while Chad Harris claimed instant gratification by making early morning crosses with it. Carol Lankow was always up for a challenge, and she succeeded in making several crosses into the BB class with her careful and nearly impossible chromosome mixes.

Each succeeding generation opens up an infinite number of new possibilities, and I'm sure we will see more from this fine specimen.

Of all the bearded iris classes, the Intermediates have shown the most dramatic improvement during the 1980s, and I expect this trend to continue right on into the 21st century. As we travel from garden to garden, we are seeing brighter colors, better form and more buds on nicer showstalks. In the Northwest, as well as the rest of the country, we are just on the verge of a "quality explosion" with the IBs. Hang onto your hats, folks—this is going to be fun!

SOCIETY FOR LOUISIANA IRISES' ANNUAL CONVENTION

Perry Dyer (Oklahoma)

In Louisiana a local "public service" station airs promotional advertising for the sights and events occurring in Acadiana. Lafayette is the capital of Cajun Country and, in addition to being the hub of activity in southwest Louisiana, is the site for the annual convention of the Society for Louisiana Irises (SLI).

Acadiana is famous for its warm hospitality, its good food, and its entertainment. "Let the good times roll" (don't ask me how to say it in French!). As the commercial claims, the local folks are gonna go out and enjoy themselves. They extend the invitation to visitors to join in on the fun. So if you *don't* have a good time, that's *your* problem!

A phone call a few days before my departure for Lafayette suggested that they were past peak. Well, we saw plenty on the bus tour on Friday and, sure enough, the show on Saturday was just as successful as ever, with an admirable number of high-quality exhibits.

Friday morning, 7:30 a.m.—it looked as if we were getting ready for a football game, for there was one of the locals having a tailgate party in the parking lot of the convention hotel, serving coffee and donuts to the crowd before departing for a day of local gardenhopping. Then, promptly at 8:00, the bus departed for the first garden on tour, Deep South Gardens, located at the home of Dorman Haymon and Sandy Duhon, just outside of Lafayette.

Dorman is perhaps the most active of the local hybridizers and, in addition to a contemporary collection of varieties, we viewed one of the largest Louisiana iris seedling patches in the United States—right at 2,000 maiden seedlings in full bloom.

Some of the Haymon releases that were performing well included: EMPRESS JOSEPHINE ('90), a large, flat to slightly flared deep-deep violet (approaching black), set off with bold, imposing yellow signals reminiscent of ANN

CHOWNING. It has a satin sheen that is luxurious. A massive planting of its sister seedling, GRACE DUHON ('88) was at peak bloom, with tall sturdy stalks producing spectrum violet flowers with texture veining more of a velvet pile. FESTIVAL'S ACADIAN ('90) is named for one of the famous annual festivals held in Lafayette, and its bright, bold coloring and pattern suggest the joyous spirit of the event. Basically a rosy red, but then decorated with an unusual webbing in much deeper texture veining throughout. Light yellow stylearms add to the color array. But the most dazzling feature is a distinct gold edge around all six petals. Back in the seedling patch, the next generation offers an even more pronounced halo, with one seedling sporting a ¼" gold edge on rich reddish-purple based color.

The most impressive Haymon introduction, however, was PRALINE FESTIVAL ('92), a well-named, tanned caramel (the color of a praline), sunfast, with thick leathery substance, blooming in abundance on show stalks supreme. A great garden iris, but a knockout on the bench.

Dorman and Sandy have a fine collection of John Taylor introductions from Australia, and as with all the varieties in this garden, they were grown well. HELIOSTAT ('91) is a full golden yellow with sensational form, ruffling, and color saturation, a child of the famous Australian Dykes Medalist, KOORAWATHA. This stalk had three open with superb placement. APOLLO'S SONG ('91) is a taller, lighter (medium) yellow, with the same sturdy show stalks and high bud count as it performs for me in Oklahoma. It is an earlier bloomer, and the flowers we saw were the second buds in the sockets. TIME KEEPER ('91) is a clean, elegant pink from the lavender side, slightly deeper in the falls, then adorned with a silver halo. Heavy ruffling and a bit of lace too.

Also at Deep South, we viewed the much-anticipated new release from Dick Goula, named in memory of his neighbor and mentor. CHARLIE ARNY ('93) is a tall, deep violet from the blue side, with a small, tidy yellow spear signal. The form is flawless, and his choice Louisiana is a fitting tribute to one of the great Louisiana hybridizers of all times.

A large planting of PLANTATION BEAU (Dunn '85) was most impressive. Tall stalks, surely as thick as a broom handle, held up whopper-flowers of blue-violet which have a mysterious undersheen of smoke, giving a haunting effect to the flower.

Our next stop on the bus tour took us to the famous Arceneaux Ponds north of Lafayette. The Arceneaux family was part of the original group of enthusiasts that formed SLI over 50 years ago, and Aline has continued the family tradition, serving SLI in many capacities. Here we saw naturalized plantings of Louisianas, some the actual species and some more recent hybrids. For the first time I got to see the historical collected triploid, RUTH HOLLEYMAN (Holleyman '54) "in the flesh." Other named varieties we could identify included the small-flowered gamet red, SCAMP (Amy '73) and massive clumps of the floriferous lavender from Arkansas, HEATHER STREAM (Morgan '84).

The Durio family graciously extended an invitation to have us visit their operation, Louisiana Nursery, operated in Opelousas, a historic community a few miles north of Lafayette. Although probably best-known for their work in hemerocallis and camellias, this hybridizing family is also doing significant work in Louisianas, and we were able to evaluate some of their recent and future releases, including the choice yellow diploid, BEN ('89); WHITE TAIL ('95), a white with

an unusual patterning at the signal; YUMMY ('95), a yellow and blue bicolor in the tradition of EASTER TIDE; and LIZZOO ('95), a brick red with a gold halo, similar in color to CAJUN SUNRISE (Mertzweiller '93), but a larger, more informal look about it. The Durios are also working on tetraploids, and most impressive was WHOOPING CHARLIE ('93), a rich rosy-pink, the brightest in this color range seen to date in tetraploids.

PROFESSOR MARTA MARIE (Mertzweiller '92) was also well-displayed here, with large, round, leathery flowers in a pleasing rosy orchid-pink. A magnificent stalk of KITTY D (Haymon '90) was blooming in a tub, with large flowers in a clear lavender with harmonious yellow signals. The Durios grow several Louisianas in pots, creating with ease a "bog" environment; the Louisianas respond beautifully.

The Durios also introduce for their neighbor down the road, Neil Bertinot, and several of his releases were performing well. The Award of Merit winner, JERI ('85) is a tall, classical black, with thin, graceful (but strong) stalks in the style of its parent, FULL ECLIPSE. BELLEVUE'S MICHELLE ('83) is a charming, heavily ruffled bitone, with light mauved-lavender standards atop deeper, clearer lavender falls.

But the show-stopper in this garden was a seedling of Ken's blooming in a pot, and it was an honor to realize we were witnessing, first-hand, that a bit of history had been made: A cross involving a tetraploid Louisiana iris by an *Iris virginica*. A blue-lavender with the shape and quality of a tet Louisiana, but blessed with a sunburst crescent signal in white, showing the species pattern of the virginica.

Our last stop for the day was at the garden of Gordon Rabalais, somewhere in the back woods outside of Arnaudville, a small town northeast of Lafayette. This young gardener has literally carved his home and garden out of the deep woods. His Louisianas are grown both in the traditional garden setting and also water's-edge, with massive plantings extending well into the pond located in the center of his property. He has built walkways extending from the banks of the pond, so one can literally walk right out into the pond for a closer view!

Due to optimum cultural practices, we viewed massive plantings of several of the varieties. His garden had peaked the weekend before, but there was still plenty of premium bloom for the convention. Stalk after stalk of ACADIAN MISS (Army '80) suggested it had had a very good year at Gordon's place. The late-blooming BRYCE LEIGH (Chowning '77) was at peak bloom, with its genteel lavender blooms displayed the tallest I've ever seen it. There must have been hundreds of plants of MARIE DOLORES (Haymon '88) in a 30-foot "clump." The floriferous creamy-white with yellow signals is understated elegance, and yet another fine offering from a keen hybridizer. Dozens of tall, willowy, graceful stalks of jet-black FULL ECLIPSE (Hager '78) emerging from the shallow water of the pond was a memorable sight. Gordon has begun a serious hybridizing program, and there was high quality in his first efforts.

Friday night was the official kick-off to the convention, with the Welcome Banquet held at Les Saisons, a restaurant located in the Oil Center district of Lafayette. A slide show was held after the banquet, with several hybridizers represented. Saturday was non-stop iris business, with the judging and opening of the show on the campus of the University of Southwestern Louisiana and the annual business meeting. While the "locals" were setting up and entering the

show, a panel was held, moderated by Josephine Shanks of Houston, where diverse cultural methods were discussed by panel members from Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Massachusetts.

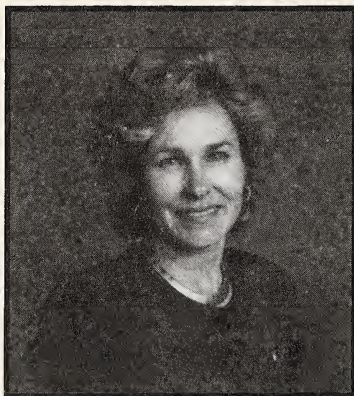
Considering the early season, the number of quality entries in the show was impressive. UPBEAT (Rowlan '89), a creamy yellow entered by Gordon Rabalais, won Best-of-Show. PRALINE FESTIVAL, entered by the hybridizer, won First Runnerup. The seedling class at this show is divided into three groups, by size, with a Best Seedling chosen from each group, and then a Best Seedling overall selected for the Best-of-Show in the seedling class. No entry was chosen from the small category. Best intermediate size was won by *Marvin Granger 82-5C*, a clean ruffled pink from the line that produced *Deirdre Kay* ('91) and *Kay Nelson* ('88). Best of the tall category, which went on to win Best Seedling of Show, was won by Dorman Haymon with a seedling from (*FADING BEAUTY X VALERA*), a flat, ruffled light brown self (*Seedling Number FBXV-5-83*).

The SLI members attending the show also vote for their favorite entries in each group at the show, with the selections winning the Cornay Award. The winner in the introduced class was PRALINE FESTIVAL. Runnersup were DEIRDRE KAY (Granger '91), the large-flowered, heavily ruffled lilac-pink with imposing white sunburst signal pattern outpouring onto the falls, entered by the hybridizer; and CHARLES ARNY III (Army '76), a tall wine-purple with silvery shadows, entered by Dorman Haymon. In the seedling class, a dainty deep blue *I. brevicaulis* derivative hybridized by Dorman Haymon was chosen. The brown seedling from Dorman was voted best in the tall category. The intermediate group, and the most popular overall, was won by Dorman Haymon also, with Seedling 138-92-2, a heavily ruffled pure white from Helen Naish (Taylor '83), with waxy substance so thick it resembled an orchid.

On Saturday night, we returned one last time to Les Saisons for the annual Awards Banquet. Here, the results of the show were announced, Louisiana irises winning AIS awards the past year were acknowledged, and special SLI awards were presented. The SLI Service Award was won by Marvin Granger, Lake Charles, Louisiana, and the SLI Distinguished Merit Award was won by Barbara Nelson. Concluding the banquet was the annual fundraiser, an auction coordinated by Belle Durio, with her son, Dalton Durio, donned in black cowboy hat, serving spiritedly as the auctioneer.

The 1994 convention concluded on Sunday morning with a judges training school in the Haymon-Duhon Garden, taught by Perry Dyer. The subject was Garden Judging of Louisianas and Louisiana Seedling Judging. With such a large patch to choose from, the task of selecting good seedlings to critique was an easy one. Some seedlings to watch for, from the tweezers of Dorman Haymon, include: 21-89, a soft peach with no signal; 33-92, an unusual smoky purple; 81-92, an elegant mauve pink from (*CHARLIE'S KAREN X ALL AGAZE*); 16-92, a creamy white with a deeper band of yellow, similar to the pattern found in the tall bearded, *BRIDE'S HALO*; and of course, the gold halo child of *FESTIVAL'S ACADIAN*, and the ruffled brown from (*FADING BEAUTY X VALERA*).

Does it sound as if we had a good time? You bet. If you want to come enjoy the gala of Cajun Country, mark your calendars—the dates for next year have been set: April 7 through 9, 1995.



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

1994 Youth Achievement Awards

We extend our congratulations to Andrew Wheeler, aged 15, of Colrain, Massachusetts, the winner of this year's Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Andy has many impressive accomplishments to his credit. He grows, shows, hybridizes and experiments with irises. In addition, he promotes them to the public through Western New England Iris Society activities and at the iris display gardens at the University of Massachusetts.

Andy grows an extensive iris garden, both bearded and beardless, with a particular interest in beardless irises. He is especially devoted to the *I. setosas* and uses them in his hybridizing program. Last year he dug a new bed to accommodate 250 named Japanese irises and over 500 guest seedlings. He grows over 50 Siberian varieties and, last year, enjoyed attending the Siberian Convention in Lansing, Michigan.

Living in the northeast with its relatively short growing season has prompted Andy to experiment with growing his iris seeds in various ways to take advantage of warmth and sunshine. Also, he completed a successful biology project on embryo culture using versicolor, Siberian, setosa, graminea and Louisiana seeds.

Over the past several years, Andy has entered iris shows, winning many ribbons in both horticulture and design. He favors the Ikebana style of arranging. He eagerly clerks at shows and, as a student judge, is adding to his hours of credit at every opportunity.

We know Region 1 is proud to count Andy among its youth members. Indeed, as a result of his outgoing personality and leadership qualities, several new youths have recently joined AIS.

The First Runner-Up this year is twelve-year-old Shilo Gillam of Garden City, Kansas. Shilo, who has a long list of iris accomplishments to her credit, is not new to the contest as she was in the Second Runner-Up position last year. She acquired her first irises at age five and extends the season by growing all the bearded classes from miniature dwarfs through tall. The 4-H program has been a big part of Shilo's life and she has done many demonstrations using her irises. Another 4-H project is her flock of sheep. She has 32 ewes and 2 rams and uses the composted sheep manure on her iris beds.

Shilo shows her irises and has many ribbons and medals to her credit in the horticulture, artistic and educational sections. Shilo also hybridizes, helps at iris sales, clerks at shows and provides a program once each year for her local AIS affiliate, the Garden City Area Iris Club.

Region 18 honored Shilo in 1990 as the first recipient of the Stanley Goodman Award for Youth Achievement. She was only nine-years-old at the time.

This year's Second Runner-Up is a fourteen-year-old, from Bordentown, New Jersey, Erin Marie Griner. Erin is also involved in 4-H and has been growing and showing her irises for several years. She is active in the Garden State Iris Society and enjoys trying to outbid the adults at the iris auctions in order to keep her garden supplied with up-to-date varieties. At shows, she has won her share of ribbons, including Queen of Show honors. Recently, Erin was named Youth Chairman of Region 19, a job usually held by an adult. Many may recall reading Erin's very fine essay in the October '93 AIS Bulletin, as she was the winner of the Ackerman Memorial Essay Contest last year.

These AIS youth members have accomplished many things in the iris world, and have also contributed their time, talents and the charm that comes from youth. Adults at an iris show or sale are always impressed when greeted by a young person. They are a bit in awe when a gardening question is thoroughly and patiently answered by a youth member. Because of their love for irises, Andy, Shilo and Erin, as well as all of our AIS youth members, are valuable assets to AIS. They are our future members, growers, hybridizers, show chairmen, officers, Robin members, editors, Board members—everything we are now. If this is a sobering thought to you, get out there and encourage a young person who is beginning to notice irises. Offer some rhizomes, some answers to questions, some advice on culture and, always, plenty of praise.

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A VISIT WITH KEITH KEPPEL

Lowell Baumunk (Colorado)

Mid-afternoon April 29. A dry 90 degree wind blew steadily as we neared the completion of our drive from the San Jose airport, skirting the east side of Stockton on the 99 freeway. We exited, turned down the first small side street, and peered into the overgrown yards until we saw Keith Keppel's iris beds.

Guided by the sound of lively voices, we found our way through the gate and into a shady dooryard. There we encountered Keith Keppel, breeder of distinctive bearded irises and winner of the Dykes Medal for BABBLING BROOK, escaping the dazzling sun in the company of his wife (Iris Society Registrar Kay Nelson) and three other iris hybridizers. The tall, thin Keppel stood and welcomed us to his domain.

We knew we were visiting the Keppel gardens at a time of many changes, including plans to move to Salem, Oregon, later in the summer. His information-packed catalog had not appeared in our mailbox to help relieve the January doldrums this year. In its place came a listing of 1993 introductions and a letter of explanation. 1992 had been a very eventful year. In January, Joe Gatty, gardening partner for over twenty years, died following several years of declining health. In May, Keppel retired from the postal service. On September 26, Keppel and Kay Nelson were married. And all this activity has been complicated by health problems suffered by both Keppel and his wife.

Despite the imminent move, the Stockton garden gave the appearance of "business as usual." Photos of the new Oregon house and land were being passed around the picnic table where the irisarians were sitting. The atmosphere was one of hospitality and congeniality. We joined the group for a few minutes, but couldn't long resist the magnetic pull of the iris gardens. We hadn't seen any tall bearded irises since the previous fall.

The irises I most hoped to see were Keppel's seedlings MIND READER and SPIRIT WORLD, and as soon as we stepped through the gate into the iris beds, those two were the first plants we saw! These are luminata-plicata siblings, plicatas with white beards and a white area surrounding the beards.

Keppel is best known for his plicatas. MIND READER and SPIRIT WORLD, scheduled for 1994 introduction, continue a line of innovative plicatas begun when Keppel started working with the Jim Gibson plicata lines in the 1960's. Crosses originating with Paul Cook's PROGENITOR led to bicolored and bitoned plicatas. Notable and popular are the variegata-plicata (gold standards) BROADWAY and the amoena-plicata (white standards) SNOWBROOK. The introduction of the tangerine factor to plicatas has produced many exciting new color combinations. His orange-ground GIGOLO has been the parent of several distinctive new plicatas, including RASPBERRY FUDGE, the recipient of the greatest number of Honorable Mention votes for Tall Bearded in 1991. Work continues with the unmarked plicata-recessives or "ices," which have absolutely no haft markings. 1991's CLASSMATE is a beautiful coral colored plicata ice.

In the same section of the garden were other seedlings being propagated for introduction. One that especially caught my eye was seedling 88-138

(MAGHAREE X Gatty S38-1), a wonderful amoena with red falls bordered in white and highlighted by yellow beards. A 1994 introduction is planned for this one. Seedling 88-157A (BURGERMEISTER X ENCHANTING), a possible 1995 introduction, is a well-formed variegata with soft golden standards and smooth bright red-brown falls. Reminding me of BROADWAY, but having mostly white falls with a brown border, was seedling 88-57 (LIGHT BEAM X BROADWAY seedling). The brightest yellow ground I have seen on a plicata is displayed on seedling 88-27A ((GIGOLO x SKETCH ME) X HOT STREAK), which has chocolate brown markings on the falls.

We took a minute to catch our breath and survey our surroundings. From where we stood near the front of the property, the gardens stretched back about 150 feet. The irises bloomed everywhere. To the left was a modest outbuilding and an immodest specimen of the crimson rose, ALTISSIMO, with huge brilliant single flowers. To the right and further back, a greenhouse and the promise of more iris beds. As we toured, a mockingbird's constant singing accompanied us.

The soil was hard and cracked. "Fifteen minute soil," Keppel joked later. "You have fifteen minutes to work the soil between when it's too wet and too dry. It's hard soil to work with, but it grows good irises."

Making our way toward the back of the garden, we came upon the plantings of irises from other hybridizers. Some of the introductions of Australian Barry Blyth stood out. Keppel has helped acquaint American iris growers with Blythe's distinctive, often very bright, creations. We especially noticed LIGHT BEAM, a gold on white plicata and GALLANT ROGUE, a gaudy cultivar with lilac standards shot with gilt, black-red falls and a tangerine beard.

Nearer the back fence, we came upon some of Keppel's introductions from recent years. We were glad to see RASPBERRY FUDGE, a favorite in our home garden. It's a beautifully full-formed orange ground plicata with very heavy raspberry markings. We were impressed by SNOWBELT, a "super Snowbrook," pure white with a distinctive purple band around the falls.

We had worked our way back to the greenhouse. Peeking in, we saw that it housed a bewildering profusion of aloes. Many, we were to learn later, hybridized by Keppel. The greenhouse is a sanctuary for Keppel during the damp and dreary months of winter when the irises are dormant.

Behind the main house is a semiwild garden crowded with roses, daylilies, calendulas and various and numerous cultivated plants. Nearby was a bed of Joe Gatty's hybrids, featuring the spectacular ruffled deep pink COMING UP ROSES.

The seedling beds commanded our attention for a long time. It was fascinating to consider the variety of flowers that can come from a single cross. There was more variation in color, form and overall quality than I would have imagined. You may be assured that many more distinctive bright plicatas will be introduced from Keppel's garden in the next few years.

Among the seedlings of the past few years that have been selected for further evaluation, our attention was seized by the cross of GALLANT ROGUE X Bill Maryott's WITCHES' SABBATH. They reflect a continuing effort toward a goal Keppel has been working toward "for decades," a tangerine-bearded black iris. And in fact, one seedling (89-79Q) is certainly the most uniformly black tangerine-bearded iris I've seen. Other seedlings from that cross were interesting too,

especially one with khaki standards, black falls and tangerine beards, although Keppel fears that such a combination “would only appeal to irisarians.” And he notes that most of the flowers from this cross don’t have fancy form. WITCHES’ SABBATH was chosen as a parent because it is a black with a yellow beard. Keppel figured that the dark beards of most dark irises would prevent the emergence of the tangerine factor from GALLANT ROGUE. Nevertheless, he was surprised to get seedlings with tangerine beards in the first generation from this cross.

Finally we wandered back into the welcome cool shade of the picnic table in the dooryard. As Keith and Kay joined us, bringing refreshments, we felt relaxed and welcome. We asked Keppel to tell us how he got interested in irises.

His preoccupation with plants seems to have been inborn. As a young child he transplanted weeds from the lot next door. Disturbed by the short lifespan of open iris flowers, he attempted preserving them in paraffin and by freezing. His sister and he at one point decided to raise mushrooms. They sent away for the spawn, and carefully following the directions laid down horse manure on the basement floor and watered it in. No one told them it had to be well-rotted manure, not fresh! “The only thing that came up,” as Keppel put it, “were the fumes . . . into the dining room.”

At sixteen, he began his hybridizing career by crossing several “modern” irises just given to his mother. Among them were THE RED DOUGLAS, PRAIRIE SUNSET, and SNOW FLURRY.

Keppel’s childhood home was only a block from his present location. In the fifties, Vivien Bower lived in the home where we were visiting the Keppels. Vivien worked in a local nursery and was to become a major factor in Keppel’s horticultural career. She had some *really* modern irises, including the incredibly expensive (\$5) TOBACCO ROAD. Vivien served as a mentor and let Keppel grow irises in part of her back yard. When she moved away, Keppel purchased the property. He sent her irises every year for her birthday until her death in 1992 at the age of 96. “People who love irises tend to live long healthy lives,” says Keppel. “I think it’s because they want to stick around to see what the next bloom season will bring.” One of Keppel’s popular irises, VIVIEN, is named for Vivien Bower.

Keppel attended California Polytechnic Institute in San Luis Obispo, earning a degree in ornamental horticulture. Sometimes on his way home to Stockton from college he would stop in San Jose for Iris Society meetings. Keppel emphasizes the importance to him of the Society and of communicating with hybridizing colleagues. As he later explained in an article written for the British Iris Society, “I soon joined the American Iris Society and in 1958 attended a regional meeting for the first time, where I met other budding young hybridizers, Glenn Corlew and Joe Ghio. Melba Hamblen was the guest speaker, and in attendance were other famous hybridizers such as Larry Gaulter. Here were other people making iris crosses, willing to share theories, information, and in some cases even pollen and seedlings. Friendships and friendly rivalries formed 30 years ago exist to this day. While it is exciting to see a seedling bloom for the first time, it is infinitely more satisfying to share the experience with a fellow hybridizer.” Despite the huge contributions Keppel has made to the Iris Society, including a lengthy term as “Bulletin” editor, he feels he has received far more than he has given.

Upon finishing college, and after short stints as a nursery sales clerk, assistant manager for an orchid grower, and as an agricultural inspector, Keppel began working for the Post Office in Stockton. He worked mostly at night, leaving the daytime free for gardening.

HUMORESQUE, Keppel's first registered iris, was introduced in 1962 by Hager and DuBose's Melrose Gardens in Stockton. Keppel claims he received a shock to his system when he recently saw HUMORESQUE listed as an "antique" in an iris catalog. He decided to take over the marketing of his own irises in 1964. His three irises for 1966 were the anilbred NINEVEH, winner of the Mohr Award, DIPLOMACY, an Award of Merit winner, and the clear light blue self BABBLING BROOK, the 1972 Dykes Medalist. With his typical good humor, Keppel says, "It's been downhill ever since."

Asked to give some advice for beginning hybridizers, he says, "It's necessary to have a thick skin and a sense of humor. The best crosses can lead to the worst flowers." He suggests a dual approach: a. for positive reinforcement, cross some good irises that are similar to each other, and you will be likely to get something pretty. b. conceive of something new and go after it, like his quest for a tangerine-bearded black. "You'll seldom get what you originally set out to get," he adds, "but you may find some interesting offshoots."

What leads to a good cross? "Experience and (mostly) sheer luck."

Keppel characterizes his own current approach to hybridizing by saying he's "intrigued with weirdness." He is looking for cultivars that are unmistakably recognizable.

Keppel is most excited, this season, with his dwarf and intermediate plicata seedlings, which we were too late to see. There are 2000 such seedlings. "Some fun stuff," he said. "Unusual patterns and very bright colors, mostly yellow ground with brown or red markings." Emphasizing medians, he quips, will gain him favor with his soon-to-be neighbors in the Northwest, the source of many of our modern median cultivars.

Why has Keppel decided to move after all these years? Continuing collegiality is certainly an important factor in the decision to move, but the main thing is the increased space. Space to grow seedlings. Room for long rows of introductions. Less reworking of old beds for each year's plantings. The Oregon climate requires less watering, providing opportunity to get away for vacations. "I'm getting older and lazier," Keppel smilingly explains. Not too lazy, however to do all the moving himself. The baby seedlings in pots, all the other irises in onion sacks. A Herculean task!

Keppel knows that leaving the neighborhood where he has lived his entire life will be difficult. Many of the plants and trees in the garden have great sentimental value. Adjusting his gardening techniques to fit the climate and soil of his new property will take time. At the time of our visit, he didn't know what would become of the aloe collection. There isn't a suitable greenhouse on the Oregon property. But with a sigh, he concluded, "When I make up my mind to do something . . ."

As we stood to leave, I impulsively asked if we could take a final stroll through the garden. I wasn't quite ready for this very special afternoon to end. I knew we would long reflect upon our host's insights, his warm personality, and the beauty of his irises.

SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRIS EXPEDITION 1994

Adele Lawyer (California)

This was the sixth year that section members of the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris (SPCNI), have enjoyed a field trip to see the wild irises of the Pacific coast in their native habitat. This year's Expedition differed from the 5 previous trips in several respects. First, it was the earliest. It took place on April 2 and 3, a month to a month and a half earlier than previous expeditions. Second, it was necessary to hike a mile or so to view the wild irises, whereas on previous trips, we had only to emerge from the bus and possibly stroll a little to be in the midst of our quarry. Third, cultivated gardens were included for the first time. And lastly, our participants were separated into two buses. In spite of these deviations, everything worked out fine!

We call it an "Expedition" rather than a "field trip" because the route is only roughly established. When the group sights something worth seeing, the bus driver tries to find a place to stop so we can investigate. Even when we are in a pre-planned area, if someone wanders off and discovers a particularly beautiful spot for other wildflowers or an iris with unique qualities, we change directions. It's fun!

This year, we went to Deer Park in Fairfax, Marin County, California, on the first day. There we hiked up a trail on Mt. Tamalpais to see what are called *Iris douglasiana* var. *major*, the "Marin Iris," blooming under the coast live oaks. According to Louis Fry, Editor of SIGNA and Seed Chairman of SPCNI, who planned the first day's route, these are believed to be natural hybrids involving *I. fernaldii*. There have been no *fernalzii* growing in Marin County within memory; but we saw a colony of lavender macrosiphon growing within 100 yards of *I. douglasiana* var. *major*, and presently contributing to the diversity of color and form in the iris we had come to see.

The irises we saw here varied in color through white, cream, yellow, pink, violet, and blends. And some had signal spots of a contrasting color. The variation of pastel colors was endless. And in spite of the intimidating poison oak, we used a substantial supply of our film in that area.

On the way up and down the hill we saw and photographed other wild flowers, *Dodecatheon hendersonii*, *Trillium ovatum*, *Delphinium hesperium*, *Fritillaria lanceolata*, and *Castilleja franciscana*. And photographers like Charlotte Keasey, of Oregon, lingered along the way to picture many more.

We came down from the mountain to lunch, and could even eat on picnic tables, (another first). A fabulous Greek salad featuring marinated vegetables and feta cheese was a memorable feature.

Next stop was in Point Reyes National Seashore. We stopped on an always windy bluff overlooking the ocean above McClures Beach. Although we have been there when the wind was even wilder, it was far from tame this day. *Iris douglasiana* was dark purple here and was not blooming profusely. The per-

petual wind was in charge here, and both foliage and flowers were horizontal and oriented away from the ocean as the wind dictated.

We could see the silhouette of an elk in the distance against the sky on the left hand side of the road when we first got out of the buses. And then, all at once, the elk were seen much closer on the right side of the road. We must have startled them, and they started running down into a deep canyon, and up the very steep north side. They were in single file. It appeared at first there would be about three of them; but they kept coming, each with about an elk and a half space between. There were 15 of them, and with the single file spacing, it was, indeed, a very good show!

Last stop was on undeveloped property belonging to Indian Valley College in Novato. On either side of a creek were masses of *Iris macrosiphon* studding a grassy, moist meadow, which also featured bright yellow *Mimulus primuloides* for extra sparkle. The irises are principally light to deep purple, with an occasional light blue in the mix. To the west of the creek, the Frys had pre-located an unusual red-violet specimen; and an outstanding blue-white one was discovered on our trip, also causing quite a traffic jam at the site. These will be marked so that seed can be collected at the proper time for inclusion in the SPCNI annual Seed List.

About half of our group had dinner together at a restaurant adjoining our motel, at Larkspur Landing. A program followed in which Carla Lankow showed us some of the progress being made as the result of crosses between Pacificas and 40-chromosome Siberian irises—*Cal-Sibes*, and hopeful visions of what lies ahead in this field. Kim Blaxland of Pennsylvania showed slides of some of the violas she has photographed, mostly on SPCNI trips. There were also fine slides from Kathy Millar (Canada), Glenn Corlew (Walnut Creek, CA), R. D. Kenitzer (Sequim, WA), and Ted Kipping, (San Francisco).

On Sunday morning we drove straight to Joe Ghio's Bayview Gardens in Santa Cruz, eating breakfast breads and fruit en route.

Joe greeted us warmly, and we couldn't believe the diversity of colors, shapes, and patterns in the Pacificas that dazzled our eyes as soon as we entered the gate!

Having just experienced the wild form of the native iris from which Pacifica hybrids were derived, the sophistication of the Ghio blooms was all the more overwhelming! Their petals were broad, ruffled, and of strong substance. Signals and lines were completely absent in some, and exaggerated and embellished in others. There were rims in coordinating or contrasting colors edging many of them, and there were colors which had never been seen or imagined for Pacificas.

We were also fortunate to have picked this year to visit. It seemed as though every plant was in bloom. Earlies through lates were in bloom at once. The seedlings were shoulder to shoulder solid blooms. I am glad that I did not have to decide which ones to select and increase—an impossible task! Joe has a good eye for selection, however, and the quality of his introductions is always a step forward. When you realize that, in addition to plants, you can also purchase seed of his selected remnants, how can you resist! The seed will seldom result in something exactly like those we viewed, but they will all be Ghio types. It isn't any kind of a gamble.

We went on to the Lawyer garden and lunch next. Entering the gate, red-orange hybrid clivia, growing in the shade garden under the native oaks, lighted up the path. Azaleas, helleborus, cyclamen, and streptocarpus were part of this

landscape. We went through another gate into the back garden. Here, the garden has a mostly sunny southern exposure. It slopes downward, affording an overlook of the garden with San Francisco Bay at the horizon. Here were seen examples of other current Pacifica hybridizers along with Ghio's. Terry Aitken, Lois Belardi, Ben Hager, Charles Jenkins, Bennett Jones, John Marchant, Duane Meek, Colin Rigby, Vern Wood, and John Weiler were represented. PINK CUPID, growing in pots brought to the garden by Gigi Hall, was lovely, approaching a true pink.

In addition to the newer varieties, there were earlier introductions ranging from AGNES JAMES (Starker '35) through the 1970s. Vintage varieties such as AMIGUITA, CALIFIA, FAIRY CHIMES, MOONLAD, and PASATIEMPO were represented. Dainty FAIRY CHIMES was a hit.

A large amount of space was occupied by the Lawyers' Pacifica breeding in shades of blue. SIERRA DELL was in bloom, as were their other introductions, and many seedlings. Two of these, XP228A and B, which are the darkest true blue yet developed, attracted much admiration, as did XP109A, a robust, productive blue seedling with a starry, less modern flower shape.

Arilbred irises were also in bloom, as well as early-blooming tall and median bearded irises and evansias, *Iris wattii* and *confusa*. Beds of pansies, snapdragons, columbine, primula, pinks, babianas, and ixias accented the iris plantings, along with the fragrance of wisteria.

We then went on to the next stop in the industrial flatlands of southwest Berkeley; the famous Lenette garden, *The Urban Oasis*, is located here, a half block from their viral laboratory in the midst of industrial establishments. It is enclosed by a high fence. It was interesting to watch the facial expressions when our group came through the gate for their first sight of the "secret garden." The exclamations of surprise and pleasure were a spontaneous reaction. It is totally unexpected to see the lovely rock garden with its varying levels in this neighborhood. Designer Harland Hand planned the garden so that one can walk on his lily-pad-shaped stepping stones between islands of plant-nurturing boulders and rocks of varying sizes. Tucked into the rock niches and pockets are compact perennials, bulbs, rhizomes, and succulents. Many PCIs decorate the garden. Taller plants, shrubs, and some tropical fruit trees occupy the upper level. Among them, a specimen of *Iris Japonica* had space to display its graceful flower sprays. A beautiful pink-flowered tree peony was blooming nearby. Stone benches which blend in with the rock setting invite the visitor to sit down and drink it all in. This includes looking at the pond and bog area, where water lilies, Siberian and Japanese irises will bloom later in the year. Fragrant *Clematis armandii* was blooming on the arbor which topped the raised pavillion overlooking the pool. This structure defined the boundary of the rock garden section of the garden. Behind it is an area approximately equal in size to the rock garden, in which Pacificas were blooming. This section will eventually contain more PCIs, since David and Evelyne intend to do some hybridizing some day when time allows.

Our final stop was Vern Wood's home in Pinole, where his garden is devoted exclusively to irises. He hybridizes both tall bearded and Pacifica irises and has introduced prize-winning varieties in each class. Vern has a firm policy to restrict his introductions to varieties that grow and increase well for him. A limited proportion of his Pacificas were in bloom. We saw some beautiful color forms

among his seedlings which he will not further increase because of his rigorous standards. PINK CUPID was admired here again, and 93-72, a FOOTHILL BANNER hybrid with healthy, green foliage and darker style arms than its parent, was another standout. Many of the visitors urged Vern to introduce 94-4, a vigorous clump with flowers in a beautiful blend of golden yellow, bronze, and crimson. But Vern has reservations about the flower form.

Although the TBs were not yet in bloom, 93-8, an SDB, was an admired ruffled beauty in creamy yellow with a light violet beard.

The buses returned to our hotel in time to meet flight schedules and/or other Easter timelines. It was another very satisfying SPCNI Expedition.

MARION SHULL: ARTIST, BOTANIST, IRIS BREEDER, AUTHOR

Clarence Mahan (Virginia)

I never met Marion Shull, but I have loved him ever since I read the introductory chapter of *Rainbow Fragments*. This chapter is a paean to a farmboy's Ohio childhood in which a love of flowers was instilled and nurtured. When I realized that the beautiful color plates of irises in this book were reproductions of Shull's own paintings, my admiration for his artistic talent became almost boundless. When I reread *Rainbow Fragments* today I am amazed at how extensive and advanced Shull's knowledge of science and irises was. He had most of his facts right, and his analysis and judgment were keen. As I have grown in my own knowledge and come to understand how advanced his iris breeding was, my respect for Shull's accomplishments has grown greater and greater over the years.

This past summer I had the opportunity to meet Marion Shull's granddaughter, Jane Riger, who now lives in Louisville, Kentucky. Jane introduced me to her father, Frank Shull, who spent a warm July afternoon with me reminiscing about his father and growing up on Raymond Street in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Marion Shull was born in 1872, on a farm outside Springfield, Ohio. His parents were Dunkards, that "Old Order" element of the Brethren Church which rejects modernism. He and his three brothers had a loving but strict upbringing. Marion's artistic talents and love of drawing were not looked on with favor by his parents. The biblical prohibition about "graven images" was interpreted literally by their church.

Marion became the family rebel. His brothers went to college to study the sciences. Marion went to New York City and enrolled in art school. His early work was illustrating children's literature, and he was employed for a time as an illustrator by *Little Folks* magazine. Later he moved to Washington, D.C. where he worked as a botanical artist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His love of plants and drawing were joined in his profession.

Throughout his life Marion Shull was strongly motivated to compete with the accomplishments of his three brothers. Two of Shull's brothers became distinguished zoologists, and the third brother did nothing less than revolutionize American agriculture. This brother, George Harrison Shull, is known in history books as the "father of hybrid corn." He founded the School of Genetics at Princeton University, and his work in genetics led to the development of hybrid corn strains that were to increase farm yields by as much as 50 percent.

It was from his brother George that Marion Shull learned about genetics. Through this knowledge he was able to create some of the finest irises of his day on a half acre city lot in Chevy Chase. And what irises they were!

The first Honorable Mention award from the newly founded American Iris Society went to Shull's luminous chrome yellow VIRGINIA MOORE (1920), which bore his wife's maiden name. MAORI PRINCESS (1923) was considered to be the most brilliantly colored variegata iris when it was introduced. MOON MAGIC (1931), another Honorable Mention winner, was described by one judge as "a very distinct pale yellow iris of fine finish." Another yellow, DUNE SPRITE (32), was highly rated in the AIS Judges Symposium for 1932. TROPIC SEAS (1926), ELAINE (1925), COPPERSMITH (1926), JULIA MARLOW (1924) and SEQUOIAH (1926) were a few of his other distinguished cultivars.

Of all his iris breeding achievements, MORNING SPLENDOR (1923) was Marion Shull's masterpiece. This tetraploid iris resulted from a cross of *Iris trojana* X LENT A. WILLIAMSON. Shull described it as petunia violet and raisin purple, red-toned of rich claret color. It was very large and its form and substance were superb. It had the wonderful branching of *Iris trojana* and received the Honorable Mention award in its introductory year. The Garden Clubs of America awarded MORNING SPLENDOR both the gold and silver medals as the best iris introduced in 1923. The Royal Horticultural Society gave it an Award of Merit in 1931.

Frank Shull told me how his father let each of his two children grow a row of iris seedlings. From Frank's sister's row came JULIA MARLOW, which she selected to be named for one of the most famous Shakespearian actresses of the day. From Frank's row came MORNING SPLENDOR, and Marion used the proceeds of its sales to put Frank through college.

Marion Shull retired from the Department of Agriculture in 1937, which was also the year his wife died. He received the AIS Distinguished Service Medal in 1944.

For quite a few years I have been more than a little piqued by one sentence in Shull's obituary which appeared in the January 1949 AIS *Bulletin*: "His interest in line breeding preceded the present trend and his irises are rarely recorded in current pedigrees." A number of Shull's irises appear in modern tall bearded iris pedigrees, and MORNING SPLENDOR appears in many, many pedigrees. One of MORNING SPLENDOR's most significant attributes is its ability to occasionally rebloom in warm climates, and some of the historic irises which are derived from it are TIFFANY (H. Sass 1938) and GIBSON GIRL (J. Gibson 1946). I am rather pleased it is an ancestor of my own introductions VIOLET MUSIC (1991) and SUKY (1991).

When I visited Shull's granddaughter's home I was able to see some of his botanical drawings and watercolors. They are magnificent. Marion Shull was truly a great artist, just as he was a great iris breeder and writer on irises. But above all

else, the introductory chapter to *Rainbow Fragments* reveals him as a man with a great heart. Robert Sturtevant wrote after his death: "We shall miss his benign smile . . .". I remember these words each time I see MORNING SPLENDOR or VIRGINIA MOORE in my garden.

MEDIANS IN 1993

Perry Dyer (Oklahoma)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED: CAROL'S DREAM (Dunderman '90) is a smooth, refined light blue, paling in the center of the falls around soft yellow beards. Rounded form adds a touch of class to this iris. PETITE MONEY (Steele '90) is a crisp creamy white, heavily marked blue-violet in the standards. The falls have narrower stitching and peppering, more concentrated in the shoulders around light yellow beards. A child of the famous Carolyn Rose (Dunderman '71), with the same fine stalks and plant habits. WELCH'S REWARD (Welch-Hall '88) is a smart color combo, with smooth yellow standards contrasted by rich red-purple falls, carefully edged with a distinctive halo of yellow. Outstanding plant habits, and very floriferous, with good timing of the many buds.

BORDER BEARDED: BIG VICTORY (Burch '90) was a shocking surprise. Stalk height was correct and the flowers were maybe just a touch big in Texas, but what flowers! Pristine, cold, purest white, right down to the beards. Concise, heavy, tight ruffles and fluting with impeccable form. Superb stalks with three well-spaced branches. ISLAND CHARM (Aitken '91) is remindful of Terry's great Sass-winning IB, MAUI MOONLIGHT ('87) in basic color ensemble, but with form more like one would find in a BB, and a bit "brighter" instead of creamy texture. A clear sparkling light lemon yellow, completely solid in color in the standards. The falls are a touch lighter, with a strong presence of white throughout, returning to yellow at the shoulder areas, accented by a bright deep yellow (not gold) beard. Tight, compact form, with closed standards and horizontal to flaring falls, edged with just a hint of minute ruffles and a suggestion of lace. Branching was somewhat variable but can be very good.

ONE LITTLE PINKIE (Durrance '92) in a world bombarded with an overrun of a thousand-and-one pinks, pinks, pinks, *this* one talks to you. Good things come in small packages, and this compact little ball has all the trappings of a heart stealer. Thick, starchy standards are rich, with such strong midribs and heavy ruffling that one doesn't realize they are "Utah standards." Perfectly round, leathery falls are a bit more gently embellished, but still very showy, and so thick they aren't even diamond-dusted (the "traditional" finish in a good pink of this depth of color). I've never seen quite this shade in *any* pink—not salmon, not shrimp, not even a screaming hot pink—but it is intense, and then the whole flower is set afire with an infusion of apricot in the *lacinated* stylearms.

ORINOCO FLOW (Bartlett '93), from England, has the basic colors of its mother, BLUE STACCATO (Gibson '77), but in a scaled-down version, more floriferous, and with heavier markings in the standards. The base color is pure white, and the stitching is a *glowing* indelible ink in indigo. It might be right on that imaginary dotted line between classes, between BB and TB, but an occasional "overflow" won't keep me from growing this wonderful new plic.

Keith Keppel may not have "invented" the amoena-plicata, but he is the one who took the pattern, refined it, and made it palatable. PETITE BALLET ('92) is a classy amoena-plic, with light flax blue standards with a minuscule patch of white peeking through in the midribs. Broad, billowy falls show much more white in the centers, with an extremely wide band in bright rich violet-blue, and a belly stripe extending down the center from the soft powder blue beards. The dance is in the ruffles, moderate in the closed standards, and extremely heavy and deep in the falls, which makes the plicata pattern even more lively. Outstanding stalks, with 3 to 4 branches, well-spaced in spite of the shortened height of its class. RINKY DINK (Keppel '93) is a diminutive version of the GIGOLO (Keppel '84) line, remindful of a brighter SHENANIGAN (Keppel '85 BB) or PECCADILLO (Keppel '83 BB). Bright apricot/peach standards are nearly solid in color, closed, and heavily ruffled, with an infusion of muted rose sneaking in. Horizontal, lilting falls are complemented with an exotic ruffling, to go with the joyful color patterning—a salmon-based plicata, almost completely covered in bright rose-plum wine in all different ways—sanding, stitching, peppering, mottling, streaking. A burnt brick red beard just sets it off! LOW SPIRITS (Keppel '94) is a haunting luminata, much more subtle than the TBs SPIRIT WORLD and MIND READER, but nonetheless just as appealing. A muted mauve, slightly deeper in the falls, with shallow haloes in cream around both the standards and falls. Soft apricot stylearms. The beard is white, heavily tipped coral, deepening into the heart, sitting atop a dime spot white luminata. Creamy-pink washing bleeds through and comes to the surface amidst the mauve coloring. Tight form, gently waved so as not to disturb the impact of the luminata pattern, all presented on tidy show stalks opening 2 to 3 at once.

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED: The shining star in the "post-Median Spree" bloom was BRIGHTEN UP (Hager '90), a dazzling, sizzling bright orange with screaming orange beards, thick and sassy. Notably brighter, richer, and with tighter form than the similar ALL RIGHT (Hager '88). Totally sunfast here, and so bright it can be seen across the garden. DREAM WALTZ (Willott '90) is totally unique from any IB on the current market. A cold pure-white with a definite presence of *lace* on all parts—not heavy, just a light sprinkling. The shape of the flowers is more oval than rounded, but still pleasing and acceptable. In a different style is LADY DAY (Lankow '90), a warm, almost creamy white with chiffon substance and bright yellow contrasting beards. Form is extremely wide, with well-held, strong, open standards to show the warm inner-glow. LEVITY (Aitken '91) is similar in color and pattern to its parent, CHUBBY CHEEKS (Black '85 SDB), but then set off with an intense, near-black beard tipped bronze.

PUN (Keppel '91) is basically a yellow based plicata, almost completely saturated rosy-chocolate in the standards. Falls are also heavily marked, but have more of a peppering (almost polka-dotting) in the contrast color. A very plain

form gives you the opportunity to study and appreciate the intricate colorings. ZONING (T. Blyth '88) is a warm plic that I had missed until this year. A creamy yellow based plicata, heavily banded in a colorful montage of light rosy lavender, tan, and golden-brown. All parts then have a thin halo in gold. Nice shape, good substance, and sunfast.

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED: Two Pepper Mill-style plics from Ben Hager did very well in the Median Spree gardens: ANECDOTE ('92) is a brilliant yellow, heavily banded in a rich maroon to nearly chocolate brown. Bright, thick yellow beards add to the clarity of color. With a pedigree that is half pink/pink plicata, there's all kinds of breeding potential here. From traditional plic breeding is CHUM ('91) a more muted effect overall, with a "duller" base color, stitched in a lighter toasty brown. These two are different, and both have high quality with excellent form. COPPER GEM (C. Palmer '93) is a totally new color in dwarfs, and it is an enticing new look. Coming from Earl Roberts pink SDB breeding, with a little bit of Barry Blyth pink plic work thrown in to confuse the issue, we have a *luminous* coppery melon-orange, slightly deeper in the falls. The falls also have a hint of a lighter halo. Beards are red, but then tipped light blue, harking back to DOVE WINGS (Roberts '68). Shape is not a "finished product"—more of an elliptical oval, but not offensive. A great new color array. Another new one from Cleo was very attractive at the Sooner State Median Spree show: EBONY EYES (C. Palmer '93), a near-black bitone, with shiny red-purple standards, then deeper falls with a jet black spot. A bright rich purple beard is very full and thick, and emphasizes the richness of color saturation. This one also has more of an oval-shaped form.

NUT RUFFLES (Lankow '92) was an excellent first-year performer for me. It is a mahogany-chestnut to red with an even deeper (richer) spot in the falls. Outstanding form, substance, and plant habits. Extremely floriferous, but with plenty of increase remaining for next year. It appears the colors are going to be variable, with differing climate, weather conditions, and mineral content in the soil. Not necessarily a defect, but it will keep the exhibition judges on their toes. PILGRIM'S CHOICE (Willott '90) is going to be one of those love-it/hate-it types. This is an elegant true-gray blend (nearly a self), ironically from the great black, MICHAEL PAUL (W. Jones '79). Wide, broad form with a fascinating opaque finish. More than a bit too large for the class, but still a nice addition with distinctiveness. Amazingly good carrying power in the garden in spite of the somber color. PIXIE DELIGHT (Fillmore '93) is a charming, petite raspberry-pink on white plicata at the lower side of the class, in not only size and height, but even plant habits. Healthy, grassy foliage, with excellent increase. A refreshing sight, after so many in this class pushing the upper limits these days. SMART (Innerst '91) is a silky full red-violet with a deep purple spot in the falls and a blue beard. Impeccable form and worlds of substance, highly resistant to the pesky waterspotting a dark one will often have during those cold, wet springs. SOFT-WARE (Hager '90) is a diminutive pastel plic, with gentle blush apricot standards and warm creamy falls softly edged in buff apricot plicata airbrushing. Solid tangerine beards. Flower size is almost small enough to be MDB, on modest 10 to 12 " stalks with 1 branch. Even the foliage is scaled down, so it should be a valuable parent to use with those plics that have gotten just a bit too big. TOY

CLOWN (Gatty '91) is a spunky plicata, similar in quality to ANECDOTE and CHUM, but with more colors infiltrating the brown base plicating—dazzling wines, reds, and plums mixed in.

Two seedlings deserve a special mention this year: MIDNIGHT MIST (Paul Black) won Best Seedling at the Median Spree show. It is the most sophisticated dwarf luminata yet, very nearly jet black with the white luminata patch gently bleeding and marbling down through the falls. Magnificent form, substance, and finish gives evidence of its Chubby Cheeks heritage. *Marky Smith 90-07A* is a mysterious slate grey with heavy infusions of purple, followed up with a deep electric to purple (nearly black) beard. Outstanding form. Marky says, back home, its nickname is “007.”

DR. LOOMIS IRIS TRIAL GARDENS

Mike Moller (Colorado)

We have just finished the 5th year of the Loomis Trial Gardens. Our original goals of providing a place for hybridizers to test their irises have been achieved beyond our expectations. We hoped to attract many established hybridizers as well as new names. Some of the fairly new names that were Loomis winners in our first couple of years were Monty Byers with CONJURATION and Jim Begley with TENNISON RIDGE. Both of these irises have gone on to win AIS awards. Each year since, I've received irises from hybridizers that many people have never heard of, outside of their home region. Many of these hybridizers are going to be established leaders of hybridizing in the near future. They have shown a dedication to producing good garden irises. Just some of these future stars are: Jim Hedgecock, Ed Roberts, Chris Vizvarie, Riley Probst, Dave Miller, Robert Euer, James Allen, Larry Ransom, Virginia Messick, Carol Vossen, Thom Ericson, Nancy Bartlett, and Darlene Pinegar.

The Loomis Garden tests irises over a three-year period. In this report we will review the top irises in each class. All irises are point scored according to The American Iris Society's Judges' Handbook. The method used to score with the Handbook will show that any score of 60 or above is a good iris. Any iris that tops its class and scores 80 or above will win a Loomis Award. The number of awards presented will vary due to this requirement. Last year we had 8 winners, this year 5. This year's Loomis Award winners consisted of two seedlings and three named varieties that have received acclaim from The American Iris Society.

3-Year Classes

The 3-year test period in this garden produces some very interesting results. The more we test irises, the more I get the feeling that today's irises should always be divided after 2 years. The irises in this class were outstanding last year, but many of them bloomed out. Our top 3-Year TB, with a score of 80 points, was a seedling by Rogers, F638-P, a very nice plicata with 6 bloomstalks and 9 buds per stalk. This iris scored "0" points in its first year and looked like we had lost it. Its third-year comeback is very similar to a former Loomis winner, LACE ARTISTRY by Terry Aitken. That iris scored "1" point in its first year. Other top scoring 3-year TB's were MOMENTUM (77) by Mary Dunn, a nice plicata with 11 buds per stalk. Jim Hedgecock had two seedlings to each score 75: 84-25-4 and 84-72-6. Six irises scored 70 points, Knudtson's 85-14-R6, Keppel's BEGUINE, Hedgecock's C-82-1-H and LAVENDER TROUBADOUR, Mallory's seedling LLSCH, and Carr's TRIBUNE.

The 3-year BB class proved to be the best display in the 3-year area. This year's Loomis winner was FAUX PAS (83) by Keith Keppel. This iris was outstanding with 32 fans, 11 bloomstalks and 8 buds per stalk. Everything about this iris was in proportion for the class. Runner-up was last year's Loomis winner, CAIRO LADY (79) by Ray Lyons. This iris had 37 fans, 14 bloomstalks and 7 buds per stalk. Third place went to RED ROOSTER (76) by Jack Durrance. It is a very fine red border iris. SWEETIE GIRL (71) was fourth in the class.

3-year IB's were represented by APRIL FOG (72) and BROADWAY BABY (71). APRIL FOG, by Niswonger, is an outstanding garden iris with a clump so large that it was just measured as 40+ fans. BROADWAY BABY by Joe Gatty displayed nice coloration and form for the class. The 3-year SDB class was topped by last year's Loomis winner VELVET HAMMER (79) by Chris Vizvarie. A very consistent performer, it scored 76, 83, and 79 during its 3-year test. This iris has very wide, ruffled, flared falls and is a welcome addition to the class. Other top-scoring SDB's were WELL SUITED (75) by Paul Black, BABY BOOM (73) by Monty Byers, SLAP BANG (71) and KIWI SLICES (70) by Dave Niswonger.

The 3-year MTB class only had one entry, but it was outstanding. PRETTY QUIRKY (72) by Riley Probst. This iris had 40+ fans, 18 bloomstalks, with 6 buds per stalk. It met all the requirements of this class when it comes to proportion. The 3-year JA class was a real test of these irises. Anna Mae Miller sent 5 JA's to test in this area that is not really known for JA's. The top in this class was ROSE FRAPPE. This iris was as consistent as any iris in the garden, scoring 78, 77, 76 over the test period. This year it displayed 25 fans, with 6 bloomstalks. Anna Mae Miller also sent Siberians to test in the garden and topped this 3-year class with a seedling 85-17-18. This yellow Siberian scored an 84 to win a Loomis Award for the second year. This is the only iris to win two Loomis awards. This year's display had 40+ fans, 25 bloomstalks, with 4 buds per stalk. Runner-up in this class was SHAKER'S PRAYER (74) by Carol Warner. Siberians do well in our climate, and I hope that Anna Mae Miller and other Siberian hybridizers will continue to test their irises here.

2-Year Classes

The 2-year TB class had many fine irises. The Loomis Award was won by top scorer TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN (83) by Sterling Innerest. This is a very

distinctive plicata with outstanding plant habits. It displayed 20 fans with 9 bloomstalks. Right behind our winner was GRAPE CHARM (82) and HOT TO TROT (82). GRAPE CHARM, by Stan Dexter, is a dark purple-violet with light diamond dusting. The leaves on the plant were huge. HOT TO TROT, by Jim McWhirter, is a red-golden plicata with a large clump of 31 fans and 7 bloomstalks. Scoring 81 points was a seedling by Robert Euer NSMF-1. A good violet-blue, it displayed a clump of 29 fans and 9 stalks with 9 buds. Three irises scored 80 points; #875 by Roberts, MEGAN ELIZABETH by Brown, and NEIL DIAMOND by Nelson. MARK ALLEN, by Allen, scored a 78. CONTRITE, by Innerst, scored a 77 and was very popular with visitors to the garden. PACIFIC OVERTURES (76), introduced by Denny/McWhirter, provided a large flower on a large clump. CHEROKEE NATION (73), by Hedgecock, was a very nice golden brown. B86-3-10, by Beeman, scored 71 points. EWXBL-1 by Ransom, and STARS AND STRIPES, by Byers, each scored a 70. STARS AND STRIPES had 12 buds per bloomstalk.

The 2-year IB class was topped by Dave Niswonger's ORANGE PETALS (76). This iris has outstanding color, making it very distinctive. CALLING CARD (74) by Messick has very light coloring to go with outstanding plant habits. COME SEE (73), by Ensminger, is a nice blue-white plicata and FREELY GIVEN (73), by Black, shows outstanding plant habits. Another iris that looks to be a good garden iris is a seedling G13-1 (72) by Monty Byers. The 2-year SDB class was dominated by many irises due to be introduced by Ensminger. Top scorer was a tie between 288-4 and 84-6, both scoring a 76. Like many Ensminger irises the color combinations must be seen to be believed. SERENITY PRAYER, by Perry Dyer, scored a 75 and displayed the largest clump in the class. WHAT AGAIN (74), by Ensminger, also provided a large clump with outstanding growth. Three other Ensminger iris seedlings 488-4 (72), 88-14 (71), and 88-9 (70) put on a good show. Monty Byers' STINGER (71) scored well and proved to be very distinctive with horns.

The 2-year BB class was topped by a seedling of Robert Euer CMF-3 (72). This iris had nice coloring and size for the class, but also displayed outstanding show branching. UH HUH (70), by Ensminger, was second. The 2-year Aril class was dominated by 5 irises from Carol Vossen. Seedling 224.1 was tops with 77 points. This plant had 23 fans and 4 stalks, with very nice foliage. Seedling 152.1 (74) displayed a nice yellow flower with near black signal. Also scoring a 74 was seedling 83.1. Seedling V84J.1 scored 72 and seedling 136.3 scored a (70). Carol has produced some very nice seedlings.

1-Year Classes

The 1-year TB class was topped by SLEEPWALK (79) introduced by Roger Nelson. This iris displayed 1 bloomstalk with 5 fans and 10 buds. A very colorful iris is a seedling by Paul Black, 90U20 (78). An Allen seedling KV1 (75) was very impressive with large flowers and perfect show branching. Another perfectly branched iris was a seedling from Franklin Carr, 87-89 CHAR (72).

DIFFERENT APPROACH (72), by Innerst, scored well with an outstanding

flower with good color and form. A Lyons' seedling, LY85-19-E (71), scored well also, displaying a nice pink coloration with good plant habits. Five irises scored 70 points, BE A DREAM by Niswonger, CYCWYB-1 by Moller, SPECC6-2 by Euer, TIME TRAVELER by Pinegar, and TOOTSIE by Roger Nelson. TIME TRAVELER was distinctive with TUT'S GOLD coloring, but with 2½ inch gold horns. CYCWYB-1 with 8 fans had the largest clump of a 1-year plant. This class also produced some fall bloomstalks from August to October. The fall bloomers were 9V8 by Bartlett and T6-3-2 by Pinegar. The 1-year MTB class was topped by Clarence Mahan's introduction REMINISCENCE (67). Very good proportion and plant habits with this iris.

The 1-year BB class was topped by a seedling by Zurbrigg KK5-1-1, scoring 75 points. This iris showed outstanding color and form with good plant habits. HH22-1-1, an iris recently registered as JOAN'S PLEASURE did not bloom in the spring but produced 2 bloomstalks starting August 1. It has also put up a stalk in early October. This iris has very nice form and substance. The 1-year IB class did not have an iris that bloomed in the spring. During the late summer and fall a Zurbrigg seedling LL24#1 put up very nice stalks with well-formed yellow flowers. We have two rhizomes of this iris, and both bloomed.

The 1-year SDB class produced our only Loomis winner in the 1-year classes. BEDFORD LILAC, by Bennett Jones, scored an 80 with good color, form, and plant habits. It is easy to see why this new iris is already popular in The American Iris Society. Bennett Jones also took second with ORANGE DAZZLER (70), a very bright orange-colored iris. The 1-year Arilbred class was topped by an ARMED by Thom Ericson. Seedling 89GD-6, of which we have 2 plants, scored 66 and 65 points. One plant had 16 fans, and the other had 14 fans making each the largest clump of 1-year plants in the garden. They both would have scored higher, but the bloom stalks were somewhat low and down into the fans.

In past years the full results of point scoring every iris in the garden were only distributed to hybridizers who participated in the garden testing. I polled the hybridizers as to their feelings about allowing other AIS members to have a copy of the yearly test. Over 90% felt this was a good idea, so we will offer the report at a cost of \$4.00 per copy. Make check out to Elmohr Iris Society. Send orders to Mike Moller, 3455 Vallejo Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. This report consists of a raw data, listing exactly what score each iris received in each individual category. The report should be used along with the AIS Judges' Handbook. This report should NOT be used by judges to vote the ballot. We all know that many conditions can cause an iris to perform well in some places and die out in others. Breakdown of this data can help one find what flowers have good garden plant habits, good flowers, or great branching.

Every hybridizer is invited to participate in the garden testing. Iris seedlings or named varieties are accepted. Send 1 rhizome of each selected variety. There is no limit as to the number of irises one can test. The irises will be tested over a three-year period and point scored each year by judges of The American Iris Society. Contributors will receive a report in July listing all irises in the garden. Write or call, I'll be glad to help you with any questions.

IN MEMORIAM
Carol H. Ramsey
January 5, 1927—April 4, 1994

Carol Hohengarten Ramsey was born in St. Louis, the eldest child of professional musician Carl Hohengarten and his wife Helen McGrath Hohengarten. She passed away at her home in Wichita after a nearly two-year illness.

Carol attended Washington University in St. Louis and met her husband, Richard, during that time. They were married in 1949, and Carol stayed busy with her home and their two children, John and Martha. She never had any time nor inclination to pay much attention to irises until she saw a pink one. She ordered five, and became enchanted with them. She entered her first iris show in the early 60's and didn't win a thing. Soon, she had learned the art of grooming and selecting, and she became a regular winner.

While working with her good friend, Dr. Hugo Wall, she became involved in the organizational part of iris growing. She eventually served the AIS as secretary, membership secretary, and as director for 9 years. She also served a term as president of the Median Iris Society. When asked to consider serving as AIS President, Carol declined because she didn't want to take that much time away from her family.

Until recent health problems curtailed her involvement, she had been THE source of information on AIS rules, Board actions, judges' training rules, and AIS historical information. She served on the Boards of both the AIS and the Median Iris Society.

Carol was one of the most active members of the Wichita Area Iris Club in the late 60's and 70's as that club prepared for the 1971 AIS Convention. She was an important part of the planning committee, and her garden was one of those on tour.

Carol was one of those responsible for the Judges' Handbook and for its revision. She traveled extensively to give programs and judges' training schools, always making note of how rules affected both small, isolated groups and those from metropolitan areas with the idea that AIS must make guidelines which could be followed by both groups. She became the national Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training and kept accurate records and maintained the integrity of the program by adhering to the rules and insisting that all judges be treated equally in maintaining judgeships.

Always astute and well-organized, Carol believed in teamwork. She always held important positions within the society, but she was just as valuable an asset as she worked to help each AIS President during his term and in preparing the successor to take the helm. When she resigned from any job, she turned over complete guidelines and records to her successor and stayed on as assistant to lend a hand. She always believed that new people could do the job, but that they would do better if they were informed of the duties and problems that might arise.

Like others who served on the Board during her tenure, Carol did not accept reimbursement for expenses because she knew the society was not financially strong. This was one way she could help the organization which gave her "some of the best years of my life."

For her work with AIS, Carol received the Distinguished Service Medal in 1983 and the Gold Medal in 1991. From those who knew her best and knew of the quality of her work, she received loyalty and respect.

After her children were grown and her duties for AIS had lessened, Carol worked for 11 years as an admitting clerk in the emergency room of Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. Her shift was the third one on weekends. Earlier, she had worked in real estate and had done volunteer work.

Carol's family was very special to her. The achievements of her children always brought a sparkle to her eyes. She is survived by her husband, Richard, and son, John, of Wichita; her daughter, Martha Clevenger, of St. Louis; and her brother, Jack Hohengarten, of Kingwood, Texas.

Carol Ramsey did much for The American Iris Society, and her dedication helped to make it a stronger organization for all of us to enjoy. Thankfully, that pink iris back in the 60's sparked her interest, and it became a great asset for The American Iris Society.

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AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

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DESIGN CORNER

The Educational Exhibits Division of an iris flower show can be a very effective way to convey a message to the attendees. They add another dimension to a show, afford a creative outlet and educate. There may be several definitions of educational exhibits, but simply put, it is similar to the science projects you did in school where an idea or procedure was described, in text or by pictures, and organized in a step-by-step fashion in a prescribed space. There are several good ideas to use, all related to irises as **SOME IRIS MUST BE FEATURED IN THE EXHIBIT**. The first step is to prepare a place for these exhibits in the show. Can you spare 1, 2 or 3 tables? Do you have exhibitors who will fill this space?

The objective of an Educational Exhibit is to quickly and clearly convey a message. Legible printing, descriptive pictures and/or objects and organization of the materials all tell a story. The dramatic impact can be attained with color combinations, humor, clever titles, etc., all designed to interest the viewer. The organization and placement of the materials should cause the eye to flow through the exhibit. The Educational Exhibit should tie in with the theme of the show through signing, color combinations of show or some other way. This will aid in unifying the entire show together.

Some of the materials used for "building" an educational exhibit consist of the display boards made of cardboard (white on the front and has sides that fold out), niches, an easel, or any kind of an upright that will give an area to display pictures, etc. In front of this structure can be bottles with irises, handouts (always a plus), potted plants, soil in a box showing how to plant rhizomes, etc. The positioning of this exhibit should lend itself to easy reading so it is best at table height or a little higher.

Potential topics could be:

- AIS organization and regions with membership applications and examples of bulletins, newsletters published, etc.
- Culture of individual and/or combined types of irises
- Landscaping with irises
- Iris diseases or pests and the recommended treatment
- Planting instructions with display of rhizomes, soil and complete "how to" plant irises
- Dividing and transplanting irises
- The history of irises

- The history of design using irises and show the different types of designs, etc.

One of the favorite topics is a display, either stalks or pictures of irises, showing the different types that can be easily grown in that specific geographic area, with some brief planting instructions. This is a way to inform the public about the other kinds that are available and so easy to grow. Don't forget a source list.

The schedule should state the following:

1. Table space or area dimensions assigned to this exhibit. (Suggested size is 24 square feet, which includes table top, and any upright display or niche.)
2. Reservations for an Educational Exhibit are required. (This will allow for space to be available.)
3. If a special award is given for this area of the show, it should be listed in the schedule with other awards. This can be a club award, AIS award or if the show is co-sponsored with a garden club group their awards may qualify.

Can you also fit in a commercial entry set apart from the educational area (if you have an interested exhibitor). This is an excellent way for a grower to display irises to the public and get some publicity and sales. It will add to the show and help the grower too. A commercial exhibit usually gets a ribbon of appreciation and is not eligible for the Educational Award.

The pictures included in this article were not taken with reproduction in a black and white format in mind and some of the details are vague. Apologies for this and it is hoped that the ideas will inspire you to do one of these exhibits. They are all blue-ribbon winners and thanks go to the individuals who made them: Bob Terpening, Margaret Gaines, HIPS, and the Spuria Iris Society.

Picture No. 1 displays the different scales of points available for each iris type so attendees will see how different entries scored and why. The scales were mounted on stands similar to a dividing screen and are at eye level for easy reading.

Picture No. 2 is by the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) and was exhibited at the flower show held in conjunction with the 1992 AIS National Convention in Atlanta, GA. It has been mounted on a white latice structure, has a touch of humor with the bunny and suggests we can preserve our historic irises and to contact this group.

Picture No. 3 was prepared by the Spuria Iris Society and has details on what spurias are, what they look like and how to grow them. A nice addition is the two containers with a selection of spurias. Again this exhibit was mounted on a latice structure and was in the flower show in Atlanta at the 1992 AIS National Convention.

Picture No. 4 is a cardboard display board showing how to make pot-et-fleur. Growing green plants were placed in various containers and irises were put in tubes with water and then inserted into the soil. The directions were printed on the backboard, handouts were available and several examples were displayed, with materials used to construct the pot-et-fleur. The printing for the text on the board could've been larger and easier to read but was concise—the handouts gave more detail.

Note that most of the exhibits have a minimum of text and the message is primarily conveyed quickly by pictures or examples.

Send any comments or questions to: Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512.

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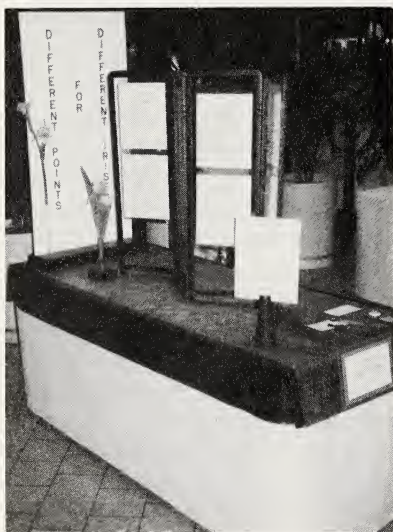


Photo 1



Photo 2

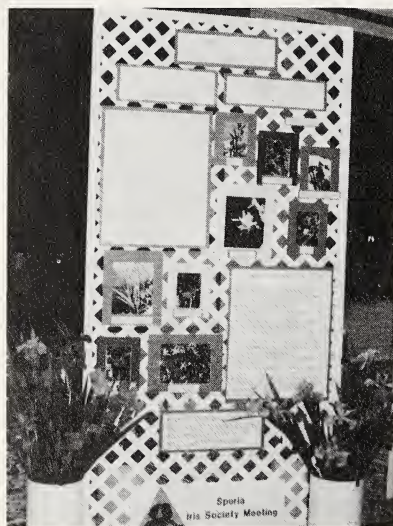


Photo 3

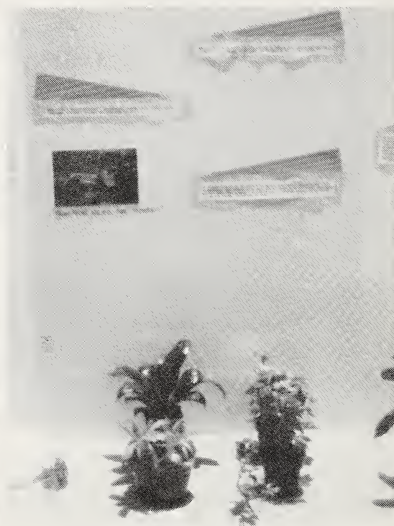


Photo 4



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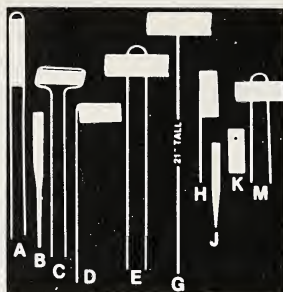
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IRIS GROWING FROM JUNE TO NOVEMBER IN PENNSYLVANIA

Sterling Innerst (Pennsylvania)

When contacted about writing this article, I neglected to mention that I no longer mulch, at least not everything. Mulching was one of the things I was supposed to discuss in this article.

I had mulched heavily until about five years ago. I would use 400 to 500 bales of straw and cover everything during Thanksgiving vacation from school. Everything was uncovered beginning about March 15. I would “store” this huge pile of now-loose straw under a row of twelve pine trees. This pile would be 12-feet-wide at the bottom and 8-feet-high and 75-feet-long. One particular spring I had a pile of brush to burn. I got the permit and began burning my brush pile. This pile was about 50 feet from the straw and pine trees. Well, you guessed it—a spark lit the straw and I ended up calling the fire company and losing three 50-foot pine trees. I had never seen a pine tree burn, but take my word for it, they go quickly. I have not used mulch that must be removed since that day. I have found it is unnecessary. Of course, in 1993-94 winter we had 87” of natural mulch from January 2 to the end of March—mostly three feet or more at all times. In this snow were three 5” layers of ice. About mid February, the county agent began talking about crops smothering under these conditions. With over 900 guests in my garden for the 1995 Convention, I certainly worried. But, the snow is gone, and all is well.

After bloom season, I fertilize everything as soon as I have the bloomstalks removed and can get to it. Fertilizer is placed around each clump or along both sides of each row. This is hoed in or tilled in immediately. Since the soil has been disturbed by this, the herbicide is applied again. This is sprinkled on the beds before or during a rain.

By now, it is time to dig for shipping and sales. After this chore, I prepare to thin clumps and redo those beds which need redoing. When redoing beds or rows, I carefully remove all rhizomes. They are cleaned and trimmed if I want to replant them, and the plants and their markers are placed under trees. The soil is then tested and lime is added to keep the pH where it belongs. The lime is tilled in, and fertilizer and 6” of peat moss is added. This is tilled several times until the peat moss cannot be detected. The rhizomes, which have been under the trees no longer than two days, are planted three in a triangle on two-foot centers.

Through the process of redoing, I’ve discarded enough varieties so that there is an empty bed or two for the new things which are soon to come. These beds are prepared as mentioned above, and new things are planted as they arrive. When the beds were redone, all excess foliage and rhizomes were hauled to the vegetable garden for shredding and tilling in.

By the end of August, most new things have arrived. All beds that were not redone have been cleaned by removing dead leaves and any weeds that have presented themselves. About this time, I thin out any clumps that are crowded. This is done by using a digger and cutting excess rhizomes out of the clump. Only the three or four best rhizomes are left in any clump. Excess rhizomes are shredded for humus.

As mentioned earlier, I've discovered that massive mulching is no longer necessary. It's also too much work! I've experienced little or no heaving, and I believe this is due to having the soil in better condition. The only irises which are mulched are the new ones—not the replanted ones, the ones new to my garden. These new ones are mulched by hoeing a mound of soil on each one. This is done around Thanksgiving and the cover is removed in mid-March.

All spraying is done before bloom season. If done properly, no problems occur after bloom. I spray three times for leaf spot and two times for borer.

The above works very satisfactorily here in Pennsylvania. I hope that something here will be helpful.

SOUTHERN GARDENING IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER

Betty J. Burch (Alabama)

Irises become prominent in my thoughts when catalogs with colorful pictures and creative descriptions begin arriving and our local iris club begins its meetings in January. (Prior to that, my time is occupied with the local university's hockey games in Huntsville and in traveling away to colder climes.) But, irises become reality when the standard dwarf bearded begin to pop up and the AIS awards ballot arrives.

When the iris patch does beckon, heaved rhizomes are pushed back into the ground. This is only a problem when the temperature has dropped, the ground has frozen, and the rhizomes have been pushed out of the ground by the icicles. Then, there is a check for name labels that may have been separated from their clumps. (I always keep a map listing locations as well as how many rhizomes were planted; this map is prepared the same day that iris rhizomes are transplanted to ensure accuracy.) During this check, the bad news also arrives: many irises do not survive the winter here. Strangely, some of these may have survived for several years while others may have just been planted the previous year. Anyway, we do not worry about those that die; we do not pacify rhizomes that do not like our garden.

Any weeds that may have come up during the winter are pulled/dug out. Personally, we feel that weeds do not hurt irises until our humid season arrives. Then, poor air circulation around the irises causes rot, and the weeds provide places for bugs to hide. This is also a good time to remove dead fans or any other matter that may have blown near the iris rhizomes. Frozen bloom stalks that may have tried to bloom during the winter or early spring are removed since that may be a source of rot. All of this waste matter is moved away from the garden and destroyed so that it will not harbor anything that may be damaging to the irises.

This is also the time to survey the progress of seeds planted the preceding fall. Germination seems to be better when seeds are placed in the ground very close together. By spring, some little iris plants may be several inches tall while other

seeds have not even germinated. Too often, those that produce healthy plants are dogs. Anyway, hope springs eternal in the hearts of hybridizers. One always has something exciting to look forward to.

Irises are sprayed with Dimate 4E and Diazinon to kill bugs, with Daconil 2787 to prevent rot. After the garden has been plowed, a simazine spray is used to prevent weed seed germination. We have used these chemicals for years with no harmful side effects. All of this must be done in April or earlier since tall bearded bloom stalks are easily broken by the tractor later.

As the spring season progresses, activity increases rapidly. Close tabs are kept on Jimmy's seedlings, observing them with great anxiety, and encouraging nearby judges to evaluate them, which seldom occurs. It is also the time to write descriptions for use in preparing advertisements for the AIS Bulletin. Pictures for slides are taken each morning for better exposure so that the beauty of irises can be enjoyed during the winter months. Beautiful irises of all sizes begin to bloom; shows are entered, visited, and judged; convention time arrives; and the real time to enjoy our favorite flower is upon us. AIS judges' ballot is voted as different types of irises bloom. Garden visits are frequent and fellowship with other irisarians is most enjoyable. Lists of those desired irises are kept, choices are made, and orders placed.

When new rhizomes arrive, they are placed in a spare room and allowed to dry before planting. Names of these new acquisitions are typed on small strips of paper and stapled to the fans in case the fans dry and the names become illegible before planting time.

In odd-numbered years, the only gardening task left is to cut spent bloom stalks and destroy them. Also, iris rhizomes are dug for the club's annual rhizome sale. If any weeds have come up, a spraying of Roundup solves the problem.

However, in even-numbered years when we transplant rhizomes, the work really begins during the summer anytime that the ground is dry enough to plow. The clay soil is in better shape for transplanting rhizomes if it has been plowed several times. When the soil has been worked up well, fertilizer is spread. (This is the only application of fertilizer during the two-year period.) and rows are laid out, then the digging begins. Name tags are prepared for the new irises and newly named irises, and identification information is recorded for future reference.

We transplant irises the same day that they are dug. Rhizomes are dug; fans and roots are trimmed. Yes, roots are cut off to a length of about 1" - 2"; this makes the planting job easier and does NO harm to the irises. Only good, healthy rhizomes are transplanted. Those weaker ones are destroyed; as noted before, growing irises is too much work to waste time on those that do not like our garden location. All irises are dug except those that are left in the ground to be freshly dug for fall rhizome sales and regional auction donations.

No, we do not dig all of them in one day; that is too much work. We dig and transplant one day, then go to work the next day to rest. This alternate digging and working cycle is more suitable in that we do not get totally exhausted before the job is completed.

Newer irises are planted together to enable us to observe them, to see if they really do match those great descriptions, and to determine if they grow well in our garden. Seedlings are planted according to seedling numbers, which makes it easier to make notes during bloom season and to make comparisons. Dwarf

bearded and intermediate bearded irises are planted on the side of the garden nearest the house so we can see them each morning and will not miss any of these beauties. In recent years, we have planted arilbreds, according to size, with the bearded irises. Pure arils do not survive here no matter what treatment is given; modern arilbreds do not require special treatment. We keep trying various methods of arranging irises when planting, but the foregoing arrangements seem to work well now.

When the transplanting job is finished and the temperature has cooled and several rains have fallen, spraying is done to get rid of any bugs and to prevent various diseases to which the irises may be prone to succumb.

So ends the spring and summer gardening period. But, an important part of irisdom continues: fall regional meetings and fellowship with irisarians.

(The preceding comments refer only to bearded irises. My Japanese, Louisianas, and Siberians do not receive such methodical care.)

COLLECTING IRISES IN WESTERN CHINA

James W. Waddick (Missouri)

In April and May of 1993, I had the opportunity to return to the People's Republic of China to observe and collect native irises with my good friend and Chinese Iris authority Prof. Zhao Yu-tang. This is an account of the travels, the irises and related events.

I first traveled to China in May, 1989 under the sponsorship of a group of 20 interested iris growers and organizations. At this time I met Prof. Zhao in his home of Changchun, Jilin Province (formerly Manchuria) and traveled with him in Jilin and Inner Mongolia. An account of this trip is given in an earlier American Iris Society Bulletin (Jan. 1990, pp. 63-79). That meeting led to his visit to the Annual Meeting of The American Iris Society in May, 1991 and addressing the meeting of SIGNA. He also had the opportunity to visit and speak to several other iris groups.

This trip was planned to explore the western provinces, but was later restricted to the central western provinces. The China known to most travelers is in reality confined to the strip of the Eastern Coast roughly comparable to the Boston/New York/Washington axis of the U.S. A few adventurous travelers might make it west to Xian or Guilin, but even fewer make it as far west as Kunming or Chengdu (see Map/no2).

Our plan was simplicity itself: to travel to places we had not been before and try to locate native iris species that are poorly known or have rarely been seen or collected by scientists with iris expertise. We targeted spots running from the south to north on the western side of China. We agreed on specific locations and arranged for contacts and host institutions. I arranged for most of the funding and some of the travel arrangements. Zhao made the remainder of the contacts in China, and together we tried to select the best of all possible combinations. Naturally, it is impossible to visit a variety of locations and have all conditions at

their peak. We knew we would be too early for some irises, too late for others, but right at peak for some. Some of the rarest we might not be able to find at all, but at least we could be on the spot and try. I guess there was a good deal of gambling involved in this trip and at least some of those 'bets' paid off.

I departed from Kansas City in the early morning hours of April 17 and passed through Phoenix, San Francisco, and Shanghai and arrived in Beijing near midnight of the next day. Actually I didn't hit a pillow until early on the 19th. Prof. Zhao and one of his daughters (Zhao Hong) met me at the airport and 'eased' me into China. A couple of days in Beijing allowed my internal clock to reset and my external sensors to begin to see the changes in China since my last trip four years earlier.

It is difficult enough to give someone unfamiliar with a location a true sense of "place." The China I visited four years ago was strange, somewhat standoffish and near "Third World" in many ways. Beijing was not only a big city in all senses of the word, but bustling, growing and bursting at all its real and philosophical seams. The economy is booming to the extent that street vendors and entrepreneurs are selling and trading every imaginable kind of goods from clothing to vegetables to household necessities and luxuries. Huge modern department stores offer everything from French perfume and Italian pasta to Japanese motorcycles and designer clothing from around the world. Building is evident from the subway construction below to the highway overpasses above and swirls of dust from high rise office towers, international trade buildings and masses of new apartments. And the same people who were standing in the shadow of democracy demonstrations or still fearful from the reprisals of talking to foreigners after years of cultural revolution oppression are now suddenly free and eager to meet foreigners, practice their English (or other language) and make plans and deals for the future. Beijing is draped with huge signs and promising a newly open China.

I suppose the Chinese have always had to be careful in dealing with foreigners as they were in the past, but now there is barely a shred of that worry left and as one travels from Beijing the pressure dissipates. In many senses there is a new China developing. Already the world's third largest economy, the social, economic and philosophical differences are great compared to my last visit. Even politics are changing internally and external relationships will surely follow. All these changes will cause disruptions on the short term, but suggest dramatic improvements for the future. These will not only be improvements for the people of China but in their relationships with other citizens of the world. Hopefully, the relationships developed in regard to irises now will grow and develop for the benefit of all in the future.

After settling down to China time, Zhao and I flew over 1,200 miles southwest to Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province. We were met at the airport by Mr. Dong Xiao-dong, a graduate student of Zhao who is working on his master's thesis on the "Iris Flora of Yunnan Province." Dong's research has been funded in part through the generous support of Elaine Hulbert, Bob Pries, Jean Peyrard, David Lennette, the Greater Kansas City Iris Society and James L. Murrain. We arrived in mid-afternoon and realized that to get to our first stop, we'd have to catch an all night bus to Dali.

This is an example of China's growth. Today, the only way to get to Dali is by

road in bus or private car. There is a new high speed highway, a railroad track extension and a new airport all under construction. By 1995 these are set for completion, and a tourist can get to Dali quickly and easily. Now the only road, already poor, is even worse with the inconvenience of construction for the new highway. Public buses are simply not made for people of American stature. My near six foot frame was at least a foot too long to fit comfortably in the standard Chinese size seats. Thirteen hours of all night discomfort combined with road construction, tortuous mountain roads and wild drivers have kept casual tourists away from Dali so far, but the new transportation will bring outsiders in droves to this lovely area.

In Dali, Mr. Dong's home, we were housed at the Dali Normal College where Mr. Dong is a new teacher. We visited around Dali and climbed into the nearby mountains for panoramic views of Lake Er Hai. Our first iris find was a broad leaved iris just beginning to show flower stalks, probably two weeks or more away from bloom. With old flower stalks over four feet tall and from the size of the leaves, the branch pattern and color of the still developing flowers, we guessed that these were *Iris delavayi*, one of the forty chromosome Siberian irises. These were healthy colonies of hundreds of plants at just over 2,000 meters altitude. Without actually seeing the plants in full bloom, identification must remain temporary and another closely related species has been collected near Dali, *Iris clarkei*. Fortunately, we collected seed, and these should confirm identification.

At slightly higher altitudes we found colonies of Crested or Evansia (Section *Lophiris*) iris, *I. confusa* at lower altitudes and *I. japonica* slightly higher. At nearly 2,700 meters we found thriving colonies of the white flowered *I. japonica pallescens*, and I was able to find a very blue toned flower on a typical *I. japonica*. These white and blue flowered varieties, with many shades in between, were found at the same locality. We found *I. japonica pallescens* with up to eleven branches. There were hundreds of blooming plants in open areas, lining the mountain paths and thriving in both light shade and almost full open exposed locations.

We stayed in Dali for three days and looked in vain for one of Dali's most famous iris residents, the mysterious *Iris phragmitetorum*. As I have reported earlier (SIGNA Newsletter, Spring 1991) this iris has been collected from Lake Er Hai, in Dali. Er Hai is a large fresh water lake approximately 40 km long and eight km wide. It forms a beautiful blue basin surrounded by low mountains. This inland sea is an important economic asset for fishing and transportation. Mr. Dong has searched the perimeter and asked local inhabitants about any water iris found there. Confusion seems to exist about the identification of water iris in Yunnan. *Iris laevigata* has been recorded from Yunnan, but no other province closer than Liaoning Province over 1500 miles northeast of the lake. Oddly, *Iris laevigata* has not been collected in any province between Yunnan and Liaoning although many locations would seem likely. I have suggested that perhaps specimens identified as *I. laevigata* are in reality *I. phragmitetorum*, but regardless of identification, specimens of any water iris are very uncommon to rare, and we found none in Dali.

Yunnan is well known for its variety of vegetation with more species of plants and animals than any other province in China. It is also the home of eleven of China's 56 recognized national minority peoples. Mr. Dong and his wife are

members of the Bai minority and Zhao and I were invited to their family home to partake in a Bai feast. Starting with a traditional three tea ceremony and followed by dozens of hot and cold, spicy and bland dishes, we ate for hours. A Bai treat is “Fried Milk” and ours came stuffed like a meat dumpling. Snails and fish from Er Hai lake are also typical. Of course, the meal is finished with soup and rice noodles.

Our next stop was even more remote and required another eleven hour torture bus ride to Zhong Dian in northwest Yunnan Province. “Zhong Dian” literally means “Central Meadow” and is a good description of a wide, flat, high plateau almost completely surrounded by even higher snow capped mountains. The town in the meadow is at about 10,000 ft. altitude, nearly twice the altitude of Denver, CO. The city was just opened to tourists earlier in the year, and a few trekkers and student tourists from Israel, France, Denmark and the U.S. were already staying at the only foreign ‘guest house’ in town.

Until China changed the borders of Tibet, Zhong Dian was part of Tibet, and Tibet still flavors the architecture, people and free roaming yaks and pigs. We were fortunate to locate Mr. Zhang Can-ming of the Biological Institute of Diqing District Science Society and examine their herbarium collections. Six different iris species were in the collections from around Zhong Dian: *Iris bulleyana*, *I. chrysographes*, *I. goniocarpa*, *I. kemaonensis*, *I. ruthenica nana* and *I. tectorum*. I focused in on the two Siberian iris species, *Iris bulleyana* and *I. chrysographes*. Trends could be seen; *I. chrysographes* was generally collected at higher altitudes (3,600-3,700 m.) has smaller flowers on taller stalks and blooms over a longer period (July 14 to August 2) than *I. bulleyana* (3,200-3,300 m.) with its larger flowers (with a large yellow signal patch) on shorter stalks and blooms over the short period of July 24-27. Of course, these trends are based on limited collections of perhaps twenty specimens in all.

The first morning we rented a car and drove south of the town to a location called “God’s Hole” surrounded by steep mountain peaks and cut by a narrow rushing creek. At the creek edge we found stout clumps of what we hoped was *Iris bulleyana*, but nearly three months too early for flowers. At the mountain bases we found many early wild flowers—*Primula*, *Fritillaria*, *Ranunculus* and more—some nearly sitting in small patches of snow.

In the yak pasture fields we drove through vast areas that proved to be dotted with numerous just emerging fans of *Iris ruthenica nana*. Clearly there were acres of irises of this species.

At another location, a Tibetan holy mountain with the evocative name of “Dancing Phoenix Mountain,” we found clumps of another Siberian iris, but the deep red-purple tints and higher altitude suggest these were specimens of *Iris chrysographes*.

The highlight of our visit to Zhong Dian was an all day hike in the Bi Song valley nearly ten miles southwest of town. Our little rental car crisscrossed rutted roads, forded streams and bumped to a stop in a steep valley. Tibetan people were climbing the mountain sides as part of their religious observances and eagles soared high overhead. The trees at this altitude (around 3,500 m.) were heavily draped in *Usnea*-like mosses and many lichens. We headed uphill through forest of evergreens and birches and higher up dense bamboo (*Fargesia*) thickets. Rhododendrons of nearly 79 species have been recorded here. We found a few

dwarf shrubs in full bloom and others over thirty foot bright red flowered 'tree' rhododendrons. A few yak wandered beside the trail and bulls were 'belled' to alert us in case they were feeling aggressive to our visit. During the course of our hike we crossed various logs and rough foot bridges across the snow melt fed creeks and went still higher. I certainly felt my age and every foot of elevation even after some acclimation by hiking in mountains near Dali.

We soon came to our first field of clumps of Siberian irises. Mr. Zhang accompanied us on this trip and felt sure that these were all *Iris bulleyana* as we thought, although they were far from bloom season. From the number of last year's flower stalks and mostly empty seed pods, we could guess that hundreds of plants were here in this one small spot. I enlisted Mr. Dong, Mr. Zhang and our driver to collect the few seeds still found in the numerous pods, and I began to fill a small plastic bag as we hiked.

In the course of some four hours, we walked almost continuously through stalk after stalk of *Iris bulleyana*. My initial estimate of hundreds of plants soon changed to thousands and perhaps there were hundreds of thousands in the Bi Song Valley. Only my mind's eye could suggest the glory of this mountainside in full bloom. I was mentally dazzled by the coming floral spectacle. Surely this is one of the world's primary iris displays. Imagine walking through field after field, acres; a whole mountainside of purple and yellow *Iris bulleyana*. I could only dream as we passed by 'jillions' of stalks and empty pods, a ghost of last year's splendor.

As we eventually got up to higher elevations near 3,500 m. the iris flora changed to plants with deep red colored leaf bases, and we were assured that these are *I. chrysographes*. The change from *I. bulleyana* to *I. chrysographes* seemed gradual, but we never actually saw the two species in the exact same location, but without the flower there to suggest or confirm any hybrids we could only guess. Here again we were reminded of the appalling lack of field studies of native irises.

There are many questions about the distribution, identification and abundance of the Chinese forty chromosome Siberian iris species. Some six or more species (depending on the reality of *I. dykesii* and *I. phragmitetorum*) of forty chromosome irises are all found in Yunnan Province. We know relatively little about their exact distribution both in two dimensional space and altitude, less about their bloom periods in the wild, natural hybrids, and other aspects of their biology. Perhaps Mr. Dong's studies will help to clarify exactly where these varied species are found and how they interact in nature.

We climbed on into the higher bamboo thickets and open mountain sides. From here we could look across the valley to snow-covered mountains dotted with evergreens. Clearly time was against us, and the hour grew too late to go to the crest where *I. goniocarpa* and *I. kemaonensis* were located above 11,000 ft. (3,700 m.).

After three nights in Zhong Dian, we boarded a bus for a mere eight and one-half hour (downhill) ride back to Dali. That night in Dali, Zhao was called on to lecture to the student teachers and later a wind storm temporarily blew out the electric lines. Later I was told Dali is known as "The Windy City." The next morning we took another downhill bus to Kunming and began another longer search for *Iris phragmitetorum*.

This iris was only collected once in a *Phragmites* swamp near Kunming.

Phragmites is the common reed grass and is worldwide in distribution. The marsh where the iris was first found is surely filled in and covered by the huge metropolitan area of Kunming, but a large lake is still in existence southwest of the city. The parts of the lake nearest the city are very dirty and look polluted. To the west, the coast is rocky and nearby manufacturing has also dirtied the environment. At the extreme south shore the coast is muddy and some swamp may still exist. The east shore nearest the city was not visited but is probably also polluted and dirty due to its proximity to Kunming. We walked around the shoreline in various parts from the Western Hills south. We talked to local people, farmers, boat owners and fishermen. People who know the lake. We found no irises in the water and really no likely environment for them to grow. The lake is simply too big and too rough and rugged. Not one person we talked to had ever seen a water iris. All of them knew of irises; there are a couple of common local species, but none in the water.

The few herbarium specimens of irises from Dian Chi were not available for viewing, and I have yet to see Chinese specimens. We must wait again for more detailed field work and study. Does this iris still exist? Yet another unanswered Chinese iris mystery.

We spent another day hiking through the Western Hills overlooking Kunming with Dian Chi forming the foreground. This is a tourist location and park where regular trams bring visitors to viewing spots and entertainment locations. We were able to take a public mini-bus and dropped off near a tourist site, but scrambled off the trail into the hillside. We saw large colonies of *Iris confusa* among the largest and most robust I had seen anywhere. Mostly past flowering, they had also been heavily cut by visitors. A few white flowers showed them to be quite typical, but some plants were well over four feet high excluding the flower stalks.

Our last visit in Kunming was to Yunnan Forestry College to Prof. Xue Ji-ru (Hsueh Chi-ju). Although a very well known forestry professor, he was also interested in *Iris phragmitetorum* and years of his searching had produced no samples of any water iris in Dian Chi. I had been told earlier that Xue had collected this iris a few years earlier. He and his students have searched for this species in their regular field work and have been unsuccessful so far.

After our visit with Xue we headed for the airport and flew to Chengdu in Sichuan Province directly to the north. Here we were met by my old friend Mr. Zhou Yau-dong who helped us to settle down in Chengdu. We traveled to Dujiangyan the home of my other friends Prof. Yen Chi and his wife Prof. Yang Jun-liang. After Zhao, I believe Prof. Yen is the most active iris researcher in China, but they had never met each other until this visit. (Photo #1)

Perhaps a side comment is in line regarding some oddities of travel in China. Although foreigners may purchase airline tickets to anywhere anytime, you must still present your passport and then you are simply allowed a one way ticket. Zhao as a native had to present some written proof of 'invitation' to book a ticket for his destination and his ticket price was 1/2 to 2/3 of the cost for a foreigner. Once you have reached your destination, it is wise to arrange travel for your next destination. We soon found that travel to our next stop was severely limited and we could not book a flight for nine days—far longer than we anticipated staying in this location, but it allowed us to make further explorations.

At his Triticae Research Institute, Prof. Yen showed us some recent collections of iris. One found in a remote area of Qinghai Province was in full bloom. Both Zhao and I thought it looked exactly like *I. versicolor*! Yen swore it was wild, collected near a very remote stream in a place rarely visited by any outsiders, even Chinese. We were given a division which still thrives here in Kansas City. Another accession was a tenuifoliate iris, but we were not sure which species—we assumed it was *I. loczyi*, but lack of flowers denied firm identification.

Also growing on the grounds were some lovely tall bearded irises in a prominent location. The Greater Kansas City Iris Society has been donating rhizomes from recent introductions for me to send to China. These have gone to various research institutes and botanical gardens. I recognized IMMORTALITY, EX-TRAVAGANZA and BEVERLY SILLS among those in peak bloom. A few SDBs had already finished, and the staff was eager to get more new cultivars for their display.

We made a few short trips around the institute including an excursion to the Wo dong valley of the Min River. This is part of a major nature reserve and home of the largest Giant Panda Research Center. Since my last visit, more than half of the road has been rebuilt into a high speed highway to accommodate tour buses to the Panda Center and the rest of the road was under construction. We were able to travel quickly beyond the Panda Center and explore the higher reaches of the valley.

We found typical forms of *Iris japonica*, *I. confusa*, *I. tectorum* and *I. lactea*. There was little variation in any of these, although I searched for any variety I could find. But the valley is filled with floral treats. We found large patches of the ground orchid *Calanthe tricarinata* as well as smaller patches of at least three species of orchids in other genera. Many wild *Lilium* (*L. brownii* mostly) were in growth, *Disporum* and in drier places *Eremurus chinensis* and *Scilla sinensis*. The hillsides seemed a patchwork of *Rhododendron* of many species, *Kerria japonica* and clumping fountain bamboos (*Fargesia*). Wo dong is also a known location for *Iris narcissiflora*, but we could not locate this species.

We then arranged for a long trip to the extreme northwest corner of Sichuan province into a high altitude area also once part of Tibet proper but recently annexed into Sichuan Province. We had to arrange the use of a vehicle through the Agriculture Department of the County and at the last minute picked up a traveling mechanic, Mr. Mao, in case of emergency. Within sixty miles of our departure we had our first emergency—a flat tire—but eventually made good repeated use of Mr. Mao's mechanical ability.

Songpan is an all-day drive under the best conditions. We made stops along the way to collect iris. Near Wen Quan we found *Iris sichuanensis* blooming in the rocky cliffside. Debate continues about this iris. It was described by Zhao only a few years ago, but is thought to be just a form of *I. leptophylla*. We found what might also pass for typical *I. leptophylla* at higher elevations, too (Photo/no2). At high altitude the *I. 'leptophylla'* had finished blooming and were making pods, while the plants of '*sichuanensis*' at lower altitude were just blooming. Theoretically, plants of the same species should bloom *later* at higher altitudes, not earlier as seen here.

The iris known to me as *I. sichuanensis* is far nicer of the two with larger stature,

larger flowers and upright form. I think it could make a good garden iris if plants could be established. It grows in very small pockets of soil in near-solid rock faces. Only regular rains keep it growing, and it obviously needs very good drainage. Hardiness is unknown, although I am told snow does fall in this region of Sichuan.

In the dry hills north of Wen Quan we found masses of *Scilla sinensis* (*S. scilloides*). This bulb produces small rosettes of foliage in spring and blooms in late summer to early fall. In bloom were the common *Iris lactea* and *Eremurus chinensis*. We stopped and searched through many stands of *Iris lactea* looking for variation in size, color, form etc. and found all of these boringly similar.

We arrived in Songpan after dark, ate at a modest restaurant and fell into bed at the only "Guest House" in town. The next day we got a look at this town, the regional center of activity and decidedly Tibetan. Stores, restaurants and buildings were typically Tibetan and heavily flavored with rural influences—wild herbal/medicinal products, furs, and collected products were sold in simple displays on the side of the street. There was little influence from big city affluence or economic boon.

From this relative center of business we drove another half day north to the tourist location of Huang Long Si (Yellow Dragon Temple). Along the way, our driver asked if we had such bad roads in the U.S., and I naively assured him that we did. I was thinking of those off-the-trail ruts in our National Parks where an occasional four wheel drive vehicle seeks an isolated trout stream. Minutes later a bus load of travelers and trucks filled with people jarred me back to Chinese sensibility. Although we have roads this bad, they are not used for everyday heavy traffic! The road was so bad some of our group said they'd never return; the trip just wasn't worth it.

We drove still higher again into snow covered mountains and made our tracks through light snow blowing across the road. We found a variety of early spring wildflowers from *Primula* to *Ranunculus* and even a few glowing yellow *Meconopsis* in bloom. Of course even here *Iris lactea* was encountered regularly. As the road dipped lower to our destination we found a gravelly scree area loaded with *Iris goniocarpa* in full bloom (Photo #3). The slim nature of the plant could hardly be seen except in bloom for the relatively large purple flower gave away the location of each plant. *Iris goniocarpa* like *I. leptophylla* is a pseudoregelia iris, but of quite small stature. I imagine it would nearly 'disappear' when not in bloom.

Yellow Dragon Temple is a geologically unique area similar to parts of Yellowstone National Park. The side of the mountain is covered in 'flow stone' formations and dotted with numerous fragile pools some up to fifty feet across. The peculiar mineral formations reflect light selectively when full of water so that a rainbow of blues and greens amaze the senses. The south facing slopes are hot and dry pocked with scrawny pines and other evergreens. The north slopes are a subject of contrast with lush forest covered in a foot deep blanket of living mosses. It is difficult to even walk on this spongy mass without feeling minor stones and twigs hidden in the mossy mass. Lush herbaceous perennials poked through the moss. A common plant had velvety rust green leaves. I assumed it was a ground orchid, but none were in bloom. It was so common in places, I finally dug a plant to confirm my passing identification. The odd fibrous stem and lack of thick

orchid-like roots puzzled me until I scratched and sniffed the stem. It was an *Allium* and I then recalled the rare *A. ovalifolium*, with fibrous stems and paired leaves like this.

This location was subject to one of those mysterious bamboo blooms about five years ago. Some of the high altitude clumping bamboos will only bloom after very long time periods of fifty or sixty years or more. All plants of this species, *Fargesia spathacea* bloomed here and produced thousands of seed. The plants then weaken and many died, but the huge seed production allows many new seedlings to grow even after the seed eating birds and animals have had their fill. The hillsides were covered by scrawny, still recovering plants and many small seedlings under a foot high, but perfect to collect and transport.

The trip back to Songpan and then another day back to Chengdu produced more locations for all the irises seen before and a wealth of car problems. At least a half dozen stops and on-the-spot repairs kept us going from one part shop to another. Try finding replacement car repair parts in this neighborhood. Once back in Chengdu, it took the best part of another day to finalize travel plans, pack and conduct a small amount of business. I am always amazed that even after I allow twice as much time to conduct some item of business, it still takes twice as long or more to actually get something done here. I did get to meet and make new contacts with scientists from the Sichuan Forestry College and Sichuan Agricultural University. This is the real potential in a trip such as this. Meeting a Chinese counterpart face to face brings home the specific needs of a real person. Continued communication and exchange can then follow. Mutual understanding allows the development of long-term programs filled with benefits to both sides. I deeply appreciate the chance to meet so many nice, real people in wide-spread areas of China.

It was here that I heard in idle conversation about the frustration of the economic changes as they affect the academic community. China is a nation of "Workers." The working man is at the top of the political ladder and many aspects of day-to-day business recognize this without regard for education, social status or heritage. For example, a newly appointed Associate Prof. I met was proud to announce his raise in salary to just over U.S.\$40/ month, but was saddened by the fact that a cab driver can make as much as U.S.\$5 per day. But in Chinese logic that makes sense. A cab driver has been working since the age of fifteen, so that by the time the professor enters the work force, the cab driver has ten or more years of seniority!

Many professors retold this story—perhaps urban myth, but more likely true: One of the top Professors at Beijing University left his long term position to make and sell meat pies on campus. Due to the new spirit of entrepreneurship, he could make much more money at this menial labor: as much as ten times as much money!

Three university professors told me that their government appropriations have been cut drastically each year and are forecast to be cut more. The university has been told to raise its own money. Students that were allowed to go to school for little or nothing must now pay fees, and some schools have taken creative approaches to raising money. One university converted its student "Guest House" into a public money-making hotel and convention center. Another

school no longer just researches herbal medicines, it is now manufacturing its own medicines. A third school in an industrial area has converted its chemistry department into a Chemical company and just opened a brick factory on university property. Clearly, higher education which has always been somewhat looked down on by the workers must now struggle even more to break even and show its practical worth.

This has dire consequences already. I was told over and over of important manuscripts which couldn't be published for lack of university support. One volume of the "Flora of China," finished for nearly two years, has no money for printing. Another provincial Forestry Guide has been at the printer for years getting put together slowly as each new year's allotment allows. When it will be completely printed remains a mystery. This also means that all theoretical branches of learning will be underfunded even more, and the few remaining allotments go to practical needs and commercial ends.

As Chinese scientists and University professors abandon tradition and go into capitalism, we may expect to see less and less support for our iris interest. Irises are already low on the list of esteemed plants. With little medicinal value and less ornamental value (in Chinese eyes) there is less to attract the attention of students. Zhao Yu-tang, already retired officially, now has just a single student involved directly with irises. There is no one waiting in the wings to take Zhao's place and no students to carry on his work.

On a brighter side, through the healthy donations of the Greater Kansas City Iris Society and others, we have been sending newer tall bearded iris cultivars to China hoping to encourage the development of commercial iris nurseries. So far Zhao is encouraged to start one and the Shanghai Botanic Garden has begun selling excess stocks at very modest prices. Hopefully, public awareness will be found and the interest in irises encouraged.

Transportation was always a problem and the trip to our next destination was delayed nine days; too few planes, too many passengers. The flight itself was uneventful, but late and a scheduled stop in Xi-an just added to the delays. On arrival in Lanzhou we were met by light snow and did not make it to the Northwest Normal University Guest House until the early hours of the morning. Our first business was to make plane reservations for our flight to Nanjing. First, we were told there are no direct flights to Nanjing. So we took another day to try for a flight through Xi-an, our earlier intermediary stop, but were amazed to find there are no flights TO Xi-an, only FROM Xi-an! It would have been a muddled hop scotch of flights to get here to there, so we took yet another day to make train reservations—a sleeping compartment for the 36 hour trip across four provinces.

I later heard an equally bizarre travel story told to me by an American photographer who was given an assignment on Hainan Island, China's largest island on the south coast. He took his one way flight to Hainan with no problem, but on arrival was told his incoming flight was the last flight for three months! After casually completing his work, he had to go by land across the island, by boat to the mainland, leave China to Hong Kong, so he could catch a flight (and re-enter China) to Shanghai. I can only imagine the added problems and confusion if he were a Chinese native. Seems like there are always new twists in the old "You can't get there from here" story.

Lanzhou is the capital of Gansu Province. This northern province is an oddly shaped piece of land running from the Gobi desert in the far north to dry loess hills around Lanzhou to mild, moist temperate forest in the south. It is nearly a thousand miles from the extreme north to the extreme south of Gansu. The flora covers a wide range of types from cold desert to dry hillsides to grassland steppes and moist woodlands. In Lanzhou we were in dry hills, but patches of forest occurred in suitable exposures and specific conditions. The city is built on the south edge of the Yellow River. Lanzhou is known as a trading spot on the old Silk Road and houses the famous "Flying Horse" statue in one of its museums. The Great Wall ends in the sandy wastelands of northwest Gansu. Most of the native people are Moslem and mosques and minarets dot the city.

We hiked the hillsides north of the university; from here we could get a view of the city stretching to the east and west as well as acres of plastic lean-to green-houses much needed to raise vegetables in this cold dry land. The hills had been terraced to plant drought-resistant trees and shrubs, but drought itself won and the hills are nearly bare of any plants above knee high. A number of indigenous plants like *Asparagus gobicus* suggest their dry affinity.

Our host there, Prof. Wang Ching-jui, is a direct counter-part of Prof. Zhao. Both universities are 'sister' institutions, and each person is a Prof. of Botany. Prof. Wang's chief iris student, Mr. Wang Xiao-dong, accompanied us on our iris quests. Wang led us to a location where he had found *Iris pandurata* in bloom ten days earlier. This iris is a small pseudoregelia iris—one of the bearded aril irises that is little known in cultivation. As we hiked around these hills, we found distinct differences between north and south facing hillsides. The south facing slopes were very dry; the few scrubby grasses and drought tolerant herbs were already showing signs of approaching dormancy. On the north slopes, more even grass cover and occasional healthy looking herbs indicated increased moisture. It was on one of these north slopes we finally found the elusive *I. pandurata* (Photo #4). It was almost completely finished blooming which made it all the more difficult to find. The small unspotted pale violet flowers were hidden in the grass and the grey green foliage nearly disappeared. Many plants were less than one inch tall, but the thick roots typical of this section of the genus were up to ten inches long. It was tough digging in the fine, compact soils. Eventually, we found and photographed a few blooms and dug plants to return to cultivation.

Another day we hired a car to go into the mountains in search of *Iris songarica*. This iris is probably the most potentially showy of all the Series Tenuifoliae irises for garden. On my previous travel, I encountered *Iris tenuifolia* and *I. ventricosa*, only the latter having garden ornament, but both scientifically unique. *Iris songarica* has the largest flower of this group as well as the largest over-all plant size and a wide distribution (suggesting more tolerance of various environmental conditions). Years before Zhao had taken a train through this area and seen vast fields of *Iris songarica* in full bloom from the train car. Thus our destination was a 'whistle stop' location called Wushaoling nearly 200 km. northwest and at 3,000 meters altitude.

As we drove north and higher, the temperature dropped noticeably. Again *Iris lactea* was very common, and we stopped to seek out variants. Nearly at the half-way point, we found large numbers of *I. lactea* growing near along a stream and

these were exceptional. The flowers were as large as any I had ever seen in the species, displayed well above the foliage and of a unique color. The standards, always small in this species, were a pleasing lilac and the large falls a pale cream-near primrose (Photo/no5). Photos, plants, and a few seeds were all collected, and later along the way, we saw other atypical *lactea*, but none as special as these.

As we neared our destination, the wind was nothing less than driving and mixed with light drizzle and snow. Under these less-than-hospitable conditions, we found a large quantity of *Iris loczyi*. (Photo/no6). Although theoretically in peak bloom, the glum weather conditions prevented most flowers from opening fully. The flowers are relatively large, purple and white veined and quite handsome. In many ways this tenuifoliate iris was half-way between *I. tenuifolia* and *I. ventricosa*, but closer to the former. Like the rest of this group of odd irises, the growing point is deep in the earth, and the thin woody roots make digging difficult even in the best of circumstances. Still, we dug some specimens and took some photographs.

Finally, we arrived at Wushaoling; no town, no business, only a wide spot in the road and few extra tracks to switch passing trains. It is located in a wide valley and hundreds of sheep grazed in the wind and light snow. We found many more *Iris loczyi* here—all reluctant to show their bloom and a fair number of *I. lactea*, but it was too high and too early to even show flower buds. Interestingly, this species is rarely eaten by grazing sheep. The leaves are too tough except for the tenderest of early new growth, but the green fleshy seed pods are obviously tasty for it is rare to find an entire un-nibbled-on seed pod. Most pods are missing from the bare stalks, and the remainder are at least partially gone. Enough seed must survive to keep these populations growing and healthy.

We searched in all the likeliest spots for *Iris songarica*. Even though early in the season, there should have been some sign of newly emerging shoots or last year's tall flower stalks. We dug here and there and could not confirm anything as being the real species. We asked some shepherds, farmers and road workers if they knew of this large flowered iris, and all just knew of *I. lactea*. However, the two irises do not bloom at the same time and should be very distinct enough to not confuse one with the other. After spending a long time searching in various spots, we gave up and bundled our cold, wet selves back down to Lanzhou.

After this uninspiring foray into the mountains, we realized time was getting short, and if we were to try to find one of the most sought after of our target irises, we would have to make quick plans and equally fast travel. We hopped an afternoon train to go from Lanzhou to Xining, Qinghai Province over 200 km. due west. Xining is the capital of Qinghai Province, and like Lanzhou, a "Silk Road" stop, even more Moslem and at a higher altitude. The pleasant train ride brought us into the city covered in a new blanket of snow and wet sleet to greet us as day turned to dusk. We fumbled for transportation to the city's only residence that allowed foreigners to stay, the "Xining Guest House."

Once we found the guest house, we were soon aware of real remoteness and this province's isolation. Zhao and I had shared hotel and guest house rooms across China for weeks without problems. The management here could not allow such a thing, and we were informed that it was impossible for a foreigner to share a room with a Chinese native. We were assigned separate rooms in separate parts

of the huge 'hotel' complex. We would each have to share rooms for lack of space.

The Chinese language does not identify gender—there is no him, her, he or she, only indefinite pronouns. And names only hint at the bearer's sexual identity. I was assigned a room with two other foreign guests. When these two 'men' turned out to be *three women*, the staff was completely embarrassed. Only a brief discussion convinced them to allow Zhao and me to share a room if only to cover their own social errors.

Once settled in our room, we walked through the cold rain to a dismal little restaurant and planned our lakeside excursion. We managed to arrange travel to Lake Qinghai the next day and were forced to rent a private car at a high rate. We went to our cold room and slept with the dismal prospect of more rain or worse snow and slim chances of finding our target iris.

We awoke early to grey skies, but neither rain, snow or even frost overnight. The car arrived promptly, and we stopped to stock up on picnic supplies since we would not be near any food at the lake. As we traveled west out of the city, we drove still higher. The road we travelled is the main highway from Xining to Golmud, a Tibetan city that is currently undergoing gold fever from recent finds there. Hundreds of "covered wagons" loaded with gold miners and their supplies lined the road. These crude carts were mostly powered by a single pony or jackass, although the typical powered hand tractor (a uniquely Chinese vehicle) was also common. Each outfit was flimsy by U.S. standards, yet hundreds of these treasure seekers made their slow file across nearly 800 miles of mountains and snow further west.

Our road ran still higher and finally, we met nearly foot deep snow on the Sun Moon Mountains over 11,000 ft. high. Steep cliffs, rough roads and under-powered vehicle aside, we plowed our way through the pass and began our drop down to the lake valley. As we began the descent to the lake, the sun finally appeared, and warmth seemed vaguely possible. Dodging gold miners, roving herds of yak, sheep, and goats we drove on. Things were definitely looking better, and we might even have a bit of success.

Prof. Zhao described a new species of iris which he named *Iris qinghainica* after the largest lake in China, Lake Qinghai. The words "Qing" and "hai" literally mean "Blue Sea," and the province is named for this same natural wonder. The lake is found at high altitude (about 10,000 ft.) and is about 1800 square miles in area. Slightly salty, its fame is due in great part to the huge numbers of shore birds that nest on a large island (Bird Island) near its southwest shore. It is a very large body of water isolated by surrounding high mountains in a very dry province. Numerous species of animals, fish and plants are found only in and around this location. It is not the easiest place to get to and from.

Zhao described *Iris qinghainica* from a number of dried herbarium specimens, but living materials had not been seen. The only collection data indicated for this rare species was that it was found "on the shore of Lake Qinghai." With 1800 miles in area, the shoreline presented us with thousands of miles of potential. And which shoreline—north, south, Bird Island? We blundered on.

As we got within sight of the lake, the pastures were still well dusted with patches of snow, and we could not get near the lake. Finally we decided to just

stop, hike the mile or two to the shore and leave ourselves to luck. We hiked through snow, then mud and ever increasing sun and warmth. At this altitude the sun can be quite strong, and we bundled up to keep it off our heads and exposed arms.

Within a hundred yards of our parked car, we stumbled on *Iris qinghainica* just emerging from winter's dormancy. This is a small iris, another member of the group known as Tenuifoliate Iris. Like the others, the irises have their main rootstock (rhizome) deep underground-some as much as six inches. They live in very harsh environments and during the winter the foliage is shredded off and blown away by wind, gravel, snow and other elemental forces. In spring the fine leaves emerge quickly, flowers follow and seeds are formed before the short summer comes to an end. The plants are adapted to cold, dry climates and rarely encountered in cultivation.

We soon were able to observe dozens of plants and collected a number of specimens. As we continued our hike, we made numerous observations and also found specimens of the common *Iris lactea*, unknown at this altitude. By noon we arrived at the lake shore and settled down to a modest picnic lunch of fruit and bread. The lake shore was covered in small colorful shells of a type of snail found only in the lake. The water was still icy with snow covered mountains reaching right to the lake shores. Of course, the lake is large enough that we could not see across, and the steady winds produced white capped waves. A harsh, but beautiful place to picnic.

Satisfied with our lunch, lakeside stroll and especially iris discoveries, we hiked back to the car. On the drive back we were told that we had time to stop in a local lamasery and jumped at the opportunity to be a bit of a tourist. A short side road brought us to the huge Taer Lamasery the headquarters of the "Yellow Sect" of Lamaism. A series of pagodas, temples, "dogobas" and living quarters are scattered through a small mountain valley. Seven of these holy spots were open to visitors, and it was a popular spot for Chinese tourists as well as religious devotees. I was the only foreigner that day.

"Taer Si" is an "enchanted place" built in 1577. The present Dalai Lama was born nearby. For years the temples were closed and monks imprisoned, but since 1979 the monks, as well as a "Living Buddha," have been allowed to return and the temples opened to devoted followers and casual tourists. We were allowed to enter a different world of meditation chambers lined with hundreds of yak butter lamps and rooms lined with thousands of alcoves each containing an identical religious statue.

The lamasery speciality is the art of butter sculpture. Monks work long hours to color, shape, carve and arrange pure firm yak butter into elaborate and incredibly detailed scenes of religious and folk stories, including accurate depictions of people, animals, flowers, trees, even the "Great Wall" and the Yangtze River; all in yak butter. Regular festivals display new creations, but the high altitudes and unheated buildings allow a regular 'permanent display' of one scene approximately forty feet wide and nearly ten feet tall that includes a larger than life statue of Buddha and dozens of detailed scenes from his life. Individual petals on flowers, and leaves on trees are sculpted in technical detail and amazing effects are presented in flowing water and facial expressions. It was a mind-challenging

experience to see such an unlikely medium as yak butter turned into such complex folk and religious artistry.

We were also fortunate enough to see monks practicing their traditional meditations, chants and musical accompaniment. The temples are each walled, and some are gold-roofed. All are landscaped with obvious care for certain trees and plants related to religious figures. Tibetan prayer wheels are abundant. Small prayer wheels from tin-can size to huge drums ten feet high and wide are everywhere with visitors encouraged to keep them turning. Colorful banners, scarves and carvings ornament the buildings even further.

After filling our eyes and minds with these strange wonders, we drove back to Xining to one of the finest meals we ate in all of China. Although strongly Islamic, the Chinese government has been moving more of the Han majority into Qinghai province. The Islamic influence remains strong with distinctive architecture, Arabic signs and traditional costumes. Our driver brought us through a circuitous route of back stairs and rooms to a Moslem restaurant where we dined on such delicacies as "Fried Sheep" (a loose translation), "Eight Treasure Rice," "Meatballs," "Qinghai Fish" and more.

By the time Prof. Zhao and I returned to our room at the Xining Guest House, we felt satisfied by our botanical finds, temple tours and Moslem repast. A truly unique combination of satisfaction for the mind, the soul and the body. The return trip to Lanzhou seemed to pale in comparison to the apprehension we felt at the start of this short excursion.

From Lanzhou we boarded the daily express train to Nanjing over 1,200 miles to our east. We were able to get a "soft sleeper," a form of transport restricted to high government officials, tourists and college professors. We shared our small compartment with various other travelers along the way. The thirty-five hour train ride made its way through the northern wheat growing areas of China. It was odd to see hundreds of acres of wheat and a few other grains being grown in small plots, each cared for by family labor. I saw only a couple of tractors working these vast fields. In these highly cultivated areas, wild flowers were rarely seen, and the few short station stops allowed no botanical inquiry.

We arrived in a Nanjing suburb late in the evening on the north shore of the Yangtze River. Our local contact did not meet us here as we anticipated, and we had a short bout of confusion until we met up with our local hosts. Our first day was spent getting documents together and travel confirmation completed, then we met up with our joint hosts Mr. Ruan Jiapeng, my personal correspondent, and Prof. He Shan-an, Director of the Nanjing Botanical Garden, and his wife Prof. Gu Ying. I had corresponded with these people for years and exchanged seeds, plants and photos, but this was our first direct visit. During these few days of visits, tours and discussion, we made a striking joint proposal.

Nanjing Botanical Garden is also the site of the Jiangsu Institute of Botany. It is also the only Chinese botanical garden to have a "sister institute" relationship with a western botanical garden, that being the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. Through a series of discussions, we proposed developing a pair of Living Collections of Chinese Iris Species to be housed jointly in Nanjing and St. Louis. Prof. He offered space and initiative in collecting especially rare Chinese iris species that deserve protection and controlled propagation and study. Prof. Zhao was suggested as the Chinese consulting authority.

On my return to the United States, I developed these discussions into a preliminary proposal to the Nanjing Botanical Garden and The Missouri Botanical Garden with additional support being sought from The American Iris Society, the British Iris Society and SIGNA. These plans are being developed with individual responsibilities being considered by all participants. It is hoped that identical research, and ornamental collections can be available to students and horticulturists in both Nanjing and St. Louis. Prof. He has been highly supportive of this project and would like to see this conservation and study project become an integral part of the garden and institute.

I was also hosted at Nanjing University where I met a variety of knowledgeable scholars, many with previous experience and study in the United States. Nanjing has been a focus for scientific expertise and western association. After a too-short visit in Nanjing, Prof. Zhao and I parted as I boarded a train to Shanghai and he boarded a train to return to Beijing and then home to Changchun. After six weeks of travel together, we had grown to even closer friends and vowed to continue and to reinforce our joint iris interests and goals.

After five weeks and nearly five thousand miles of travel across China, there were still surprises. After my short and busy few days in Nanjing, I bade good bye to friends I had previously known only from letters and photos and boarded yet another train for a five hour trip to Shanghai.

On my first trip to China, the Shanghai Botanic Garden was my official host and Mr. Lu Bo of the staff accompanied me across the land. I was thrilled to see him on the platform awaiting my late evening train. We quickly caught up. I had the opportunity to visit in the apartment he shares with his wife, beautiful young daughter and his charming parents. Their special dinner was a delicious delight.

Nearly ten years ago, the summer of 1985, Mr. Bob Ward and I sent a small selection of Louisiana iris hybrids to the gardens. In 1989 I was surprised to see a big healthy row of irises in full bloom and glorious growth. On this visit I was even more amazed to find almost half of their propagation areas devoted to lined-out Louisiana irises with cultivars all separated. Literally, there were hundreds of fans. I was told they have been able to provide divisions to other botanic gardens in Eastern China and sell small divisions to gardeners. Obviously, they were enthusiastic about Louisiana irises because each time I asked if there was some plants I could send to them, the answer was "Louisiana Iris" over and over.

I was also pleased to be visited by my friend from the Hangzhou Botanic Garden, Mrs. Lin Jin-zhen. Mrs. Lin is the Director of the Herb garden and an avid iris gardener. She thoughtfully brought me some plants of *Iris speculatrix* and *I. proantha* to bring back to the U.S. My final days in Shanghai were filled with getting plant materials ready for export from China and import to the U.S. After all the usual delays and problems the flight to San Francisco brought me back on U.S. soil on the afternoon of May 25, 1993.

A number of people have been curious about the import of irises into the U.S. Irises are allowed import into the U.S. provided they comply with certain restrictions: plants must be totally free of soil, plants must be completely and accurately labeled by scientific names, no endangered species can be imported without complying with even stricter regulations, and a certificate of health (Phytosanitary Certificate) should accompany each shipment assuring that no pests or diseases are present. On arrival at the "Port of Entry," the plants are subject to physical

inspection by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Protection and Quarantine facility. I had written to friends I know at the inspection facility prior to departure from the U.S. to arrange for inspection on my return.

I arrived too late for inspection on the 25th but had arranged for completion of the inspection on the 26th. I was a very grateful overnight guest of my iris friends, David and Evelyn Lenette of Alameda, CA. They were kind enough to drive me, feed me, give me a comfy bed and let me babble. I am sure I must have startled them by my eagerness to just drink glass after glass of cold tap water; a real treat.

The next day I assisted the plant inspection officers in physical inspection of every iris plant. The procedure takes hours and requires an occasional microscopic examination of some specimens, removal of portions of some plants and one confiscation. Shortly after noon I was able to make my final steps toward home in Kansas City. The next days were filled with all the usual trip recovery, but also plant care, planting, cleaning, sorting and distributions.

The final results and benefits of this kind of trip are long and slow in coming about. The major benefits are observations and wild iris species in their natural habitat. Plant and seed collections are always problematical. As a conservationist I regret wild collection of plants and prefer seed collection where possible. Plant collections are always made from a small portion of the total, and the majority of the local population is left untouched. Photographs on the spot make a good record of natural history notes.

A quick preliminary report was sent to all my sponsors, and over the course of the next few weeks, plants and seeds were distributed. I also wrote a few short articles for my local Kansas City Garden Center Association Newsletter, and this is the largest and most comprehensive report. I hope to put together other pieces of this and the previous trip to report on certain specific groups of irises at a later time.

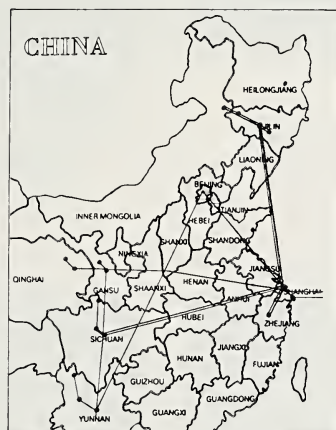
Thanks for this trip are so numerous I almost hesitate to start, but I must thank the financial support of The American Iris Society Foundation, The American Iris Society, the New York Botanical Garden, Region 4 of The American Iris Society and The British Iris Society. I have had additional support for this project from Mr. Frank Cabot of Cold Spring, NY, the Sooner State Iris Society, Fredericksburg-Richmond Chapter of The American Iris Society, Mrs. B. Lively-Diebold of McLean, Va., The Tulsa Area Iris Society, and Mrs. J. Witt of Seattle, WA. Numerous other persons and organizations have provided support in various other ways, including many AIS members such as Mrs. A. Blanco-White, Dr. Chandler Fulton, Mrs. E. Hulbert, Mr. W. Kuykendall, Mr. and Mrs. D. Lennette, Mr. C. Mahan, Dr. C. McEwen, Mr. J. Murrain, Dr. P. Ogilvie, Mr. R. Pries, and many more.

Thanks beyond listing go to all the Chinese associates mentioned above, but especially to my good friends and associates Prof. Zhao Yu-tang, Prof. Yen Chi, Prof. Yang Jun-liang, Mr. Lu Bo, Mr. Ruan Jia-peng, Mr. Zhou Yau-dong, Mr. Zhou Yong-hong, Mr. Dong Xiao-dong, Mrs. Lin Jin-zhen, Prof. He Shan-an, Prof. Gu Ying, Prof. Wang Ching-jui and many others.

Finally, my thanks and appreciation are extended to Powell Gardens of Kingsville, MO. The board of directors and staff have provided financial support, moral support, and most importantly, believed in these efforts.

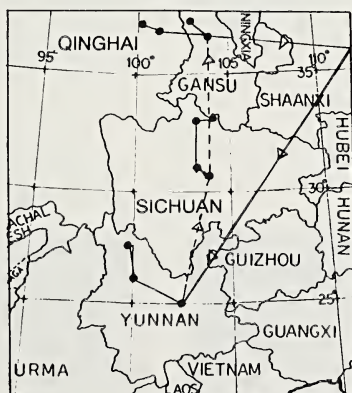
As I have said before, a trip like this is not just an isolated "adventure," but a small part of a long and continuing project. My first contacts with some of my Chinese counterparts began in 1985 and will soon reach ten years of interactions. The results to date have widened the horizons of all of the American and Chinese people involved in these activities. Although the original target has been the native irises of China, along the way numerous other plants have been introduced into horticulture, and continuing contacts promise even more.

This is a continuing interchange of irises, ideas and people. My thanks to all the people involved. I hope that the future has many surprises to come. I thank all my friends who have been part of these exchanges and welcome the involvement of all those who are waiting on the fringes to jump into the excitement.



== Waddick Route 1989 — Waddick & Zhao Route 1993

Map 1



● Collection sites of Waddick & Zhao April 18 - May 25, 1993

Map 2

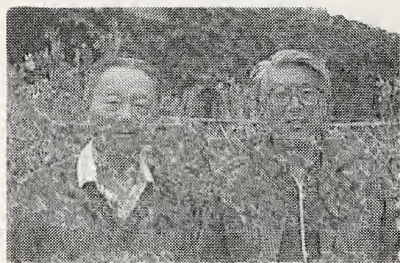


Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

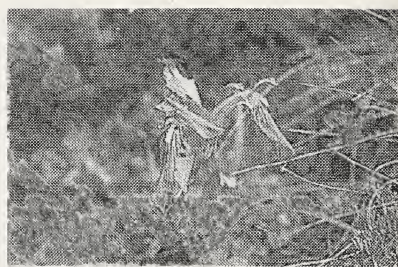


Photo 4

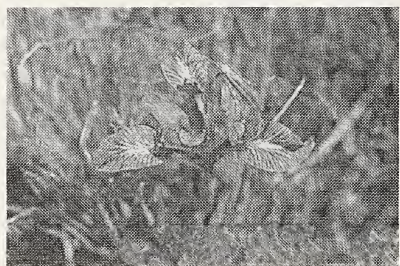


Photo 5



Photo 6

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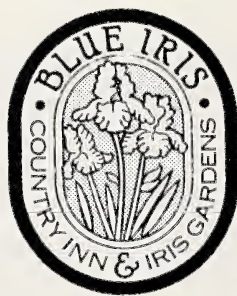
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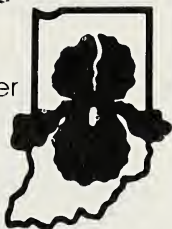
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Bulletin of the

American Iris Society

Number 295 October 1994

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

A nonprofit institution incorporated Feb. 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the IRIS.

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On the Cover is the 1994 Dykes Medal winner SILVERADO. Color separation was provided by the Schreiners.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

The convention at Portland is now history, and there are memories and pictures to remind us of the beauty of the gardens and of the countryside. Convention Committee members are to be praised for their skills in the planting and in the execution of the plans for a convention attended by more than 1,100 people. All convention committees deserve applause, but this is the first time an AIS convention has brought together so many. The garden hosts were most gracious, and a great time was had by all. There were many present who had never before attended a national convention. Of particular interest was the fact that there were many more visitors from overseas than are usually in attendance at a convention.

In a previous message in this column the need to set goals for The American Iris Society was emphasized. It has been felt by many for some time that there should be more communication and cooperation with other iris societies around the world. More and more efforts are being channeled in this direction and there is communication on an individual level and at the level of the sections. SIGNA will hold a species symposium in St. Louis next March. In the near future items of interest from foreign publications will be published in the *Bulletin*. (Bee Warburton formerly performed this task as International News Editor of the *Bulletin*.) There are some AIS members who participate in international robin programs. There has been talk of a newsletter to promote communication among the various societies. At the AIS Board of Directors meeting in Portland, those present were shown a beautiful video picturing the iris garden of the city of Florence, site of the Italian Iris Society's annual international iris competition. The video was a gift of that society. Recently an AIS member suggested that The American Iris Society host an international symposium, perhaps immediately following an AIS national convention. An undertaking of this scope would require much planning but is well worth considering. There is much to be gained from ongoing conversation, communication, and cooperation with societies from other countries.

Elsewhere in this issue, the listing of current award winners may be found. Our congratulations to the recipients, all of whom deserve high praise for hybridizing and bringing to us their lovely specimens. A word of thanks, also, to all those who labor behind the scenes to make the awards system work. We seldom pause to

consider just what goes into the preparation and presentation of awards. Judging standards must be set and monitored. Judges' training classes must be scheduled often in all parts of the country for student judges and those already approved. Records must be kept by regional and national committee chairmen. Irises must be registered, with all the record-keeping which is entailed, and they must be introduced. An awards committee must prepare and have printed a detailed ballot using registration records, previous awards records, and a strict set of rules. Ballots must be mailed to those judges who have qualified to be on the list of the Judges and Judges' Training Committee Chairman. When the ballots are returned to the Awards Committee Chairman, the unbelievable job of counting the votes begins, with very little time to get the results to the *Bulletin* Editor by the deadline. Winners must be notified. The *Bulletin* Editor must try to find good pictures of top award winners. For the next convention the Awards Committee must plan and present an awards ceremony at the closing banquet, having in the meantime attended to the details of obtaining and caring for trophies, medals, and certificates. (My apologies to any behind-the-scenes workers who may have been overlooked in the foregoing statements. Take note that we have been speaking only of garden awards; there are also exhibition and convention awards.)

Try to remember that it takes a lot of workers to keep the wheels of the AIS rolling.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY (Four Issues)

One inch	\$ 37.50	Two-inch	\$ 50.00
Three-inch	\$ 62.50		

DISPLAY ADVERTISING (Single Issue)

One-inch	\$ 30.00	Two-thirds page	\$ 90.00
One-quarter page	\$ 40.00	Three-fourths page	\$100.00
One-third page	\$ 50.00	Full page	\$120.00
One-half page	\$ 70.00		

Full page, color	\$240.00 plus color separations
Cover ads	\$240.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:

Jean Erickson, Advertising Editor
4036 Trinity Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

IN MEMORY OF KAY NELSON-KEPPEL

Kay Nelson-Keppel passed away at her home in Salem, Oregon, on Sunday, August 7, 1994. For many years Kay had served the AIS as Advertising Editor of the Bulletin and as AIS Registrar. She gallantly continued her work for AIS despite failing health. Her dedication to duty remained as strong as it had always been.

At the convention in Portland in May, Kay participated in the awards ceremony just days after spending time in the hospital. The standing ovation as she received the AIS Gold Medal was not only acknowledgement of the work that earned the medal for her, but a tribute to show love and respect for her and what she had done for the members of AIS.

Kay began her work for AIS by helping her father as he edited the Bulletin. She continued her work with the Bulletin by working as Advertising Editor. One of the most difficult tasks of her job as Registrar was typing the copy of each year's Registrations and Introductions booklet and typing copy for the Check List each ten years.

In addition to the Gold Medal, AIS had honored Kay with a Distinguished Service Medal. She also served as an AIS Judge and as a part of the Awards Committee.

Services were held in the First United Methodist Church in Omaha, Nebraska, on Saturday, August 13. She was laid to rest near her father in Omaha.

Survivors are her husband, Keith Keppel of Salem, Oregon; her mother, Irene Nelson of Nacogdoches, Texas; three sons, Drew Negus of California, Jay Negus of Texas, and Robert Negus of Nebraska; one daughter, Kirsten Huet of Illinois, four sisters, and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her father, former AIS Bulletin Editor J. Arthur Nelson.

Kay was a shining star for The American Iris Society. Her passing leaves a void in the lives of those who knew her well. We will cherish the memories of a charming lady who was always upbeat, a wonderful friend who could lift the spirits with her caring attitude.



AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual	\$ 12.50	Dual Triennial	37.50
Single Triennial	30.00	Single Life	250.00
Dual Annual	15.50	Dual Life	300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin			3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin			4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual	\$15.00	Dual Annual	\$18.00
Single Triennial	37.50	Dual Triennial	45.00

Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Rebloomng Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

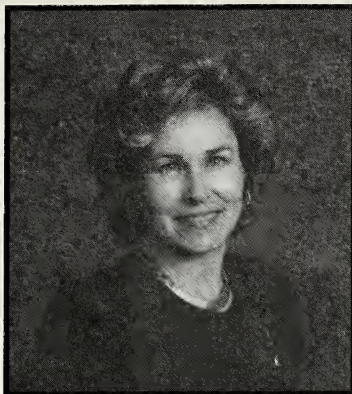
Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

**PLANNING
TO MOVE ?**



**DON'T FORGET
TO NOTIFY THE
MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY**

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

Andrew Wheeler Wins Double Header

Although it sounds as though we are speaking of baseball, we are actually announcing the news that AIS youth member Andrew Wheeler of Region 1, in addition to winning the 1994 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement, has also won the Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest and the \$100 prize that goes with it. What a year! We believe this is the first time a youth "double header" of this kind has occurred. The 1994 essay topic was, "What Being an AIS Youth Member Means to Me," and Andy's excellent essay follows.

To me, being an AIS youth member means friends, people to discuss iris with and people to give iris to and receive iris from. I have friends both young and old in iris. As a youth member, I am involved in growing iris and hybridizing. This is a fun and productive way for me to spend my time. I enjoy talking about iris, finding the right person to question about the potential results of crosses or trying to find different species that I can raise from seed that may be hardy in New England. I have found that irisarians are very helpful and generous people. The friends I have made I will have for a very long time.

Iris will most likely continue to be a large part of my life, as it is now. My biology project this year is on various iris species' rates of germination using different methods to break dormancy. Even my teacher said, "Go ahead. You will be teaching me." Many more options are open to me as a result of my involvement in AIS as a youth member. I have had an offer from an AIS member who is a cellular biologist to do an internship in his laboratory as part of my high school science curriculum. I will not be taking a summer job away from home as I have my own large gardens to care for. I plan to sell iris at the farmers market for college tuition money. This will involve a marketing plan, educating the public and a lot of work. Even if horticulture does not become my profession, it will certainly always be a hobby with the focus on iris.

Other AIS youths who entered the essay contest were Kay Weathers of Region 5, Townley Reilly of Region 7, Anna Kooi of Region 14, Gary Crompton of Region 14, Danika King of Region 18, Kevin Gormley of Region 18, Erin Marie Griner of Region 19, Julie Zoch of Region 21, Kelly Fisher of Region 21, Stephanie

Walbrecht of Region 21, Monica Combrink of Region 22 and Lindsay Morgan of Region 23. These twelve essays will be published in the youth newsletter, THE IRIS FAN. Thanks to all who entered the contest this year. Each essay was unique, well written and full of inspiring thoughts.

Youth Achievement Contest Nominations Needed

We often hear AIS members say, "I know we really need to encourage the youth members in our region, but I just don't know where to begin," or "Everybody in our iris club is getting so old! If we don't get our young people more involved, we're just going to fade away."

There are many ways to encourage our AIS youth members—take time to answer their questions, share some newer iris rhizomes with them, offer words of praise and encouragement, *nominate someone for the AIS Youth Achievement Award Contest!!!* The award's official name is The Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. The trophy is awarded annually in memory of Clarke Cosgrove, a past AIS President who encouraged youth participation at every opportunity.

There are many AIS youths with outstanding iris accomplishments, helpful ideas, strong leadership abilities and a willingness to contribute their talents. Think of someone in your region and take a few minutes right now to nominate him or her. THIS is "where to begin," and THIS is "how to get young people more involved," so the local affiliate, the region and AIS as a whole will not "just fade away."

Youth Achievement Contest Rules

You may find the guidelines listed below helpful when you nominate your favorite AIS youth.

He/She grows a very fine garden of his/her own.

He/She is an active hybridizer.

He/She has contributed to an iris publication.

He/She has helped an iris organization through a committee or activity.

He/She visits local gardens.

He/She has attended regional/national conventions.

He/She is studying to become or is already an AIS judge.

He/She has promoted irises and/or AIS to others.

He/She has found new AIS members.

He/She competes enthusiastically in shows.

He/She is involved in scientific experiments with irises.

He/She is interested in irises other than TBs.

He/She shows leadership.

If you know an AIS youth member who is active in any of these areas, please nominate that youth! Rules are simple. Any AIS member may nominate any AIS youth member. Entries must be in writing, including the name and age of the youth member, and mailed to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Hgts. Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021, by January 31, 1995. The Youth Committee will code the entries to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of judges. Awards will be presented at the AIS National Convention in York, Pennsylvania. *Tips to*

Nominators: Please use the activity list above as an outline for your nomination, elaborating on each area which applies to your nominee. Try to limit your nomination to a maximum of two pages. A youth may be nominated by more than one person. Feel free to add anything not covered in the list, especially those qualities which make your nominee special. Take as much care and consideration as possible in preparing your nomination. How well you present your nominee to the judges may influence the outcome.

International Symposium Gardening with Iris Species

**Missouri Botanical Garden
St. Louis, Missouri**

March 24-26, 1995

Sponsored by:

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society, The Missouri Botanical Garden, The Species Iris Group of North American (SIGNA), The Gateway Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society.

Symposium Headquarters

Westport Park Best Western

2434 Old Dorsett Rd. (at I-270 & Dorsett Rd.)

Maryland Heights, MO 63043

(314) 291-8700 or 1-800-223-0516

Rates: \$55.00 per room per night, plus tax. Up to 4 persons per room. Book your room reservation directly with the hotel, stating you are with the Species Iris Symposium for this special discounted rate. All unreserved rooms blocked for this convention will be released after March 10, 1995. Free shuttle service from the airport to the hotel arranged through the hotel.

Registration Fees:

Postmarked before Jan. 1, 1995	\$100.00
Postmarked before Jan 1-March 1, 1995	\$125.00
Postmarked after March 1	\$150.00
Youth under 18	\$80.00

Note: All registrations will include a copy of the Symposium Proceedings. Additional copies of the Symposium Proceedings will be available for purchase at an estimated cost of \$30.00 each. A box lunch and the evening banquet on Saturday are included in the registration fee. The Spring Flower Show will be in progress at the Missouri Botanical Garden, along with regular Garden features, including the world famous Climatron. Transportation between the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Symposium Headquarters is provided as part of the registration fee. There will be a limit of 300 registrants, so be sure to register early.

Make checks payable to Riley Probst, Symposium Registrar, and mail to:
Riley Probst, Symposium Registrar
418 North Van Buren
St. Louis, MO 63122

Preview Agenda

Friday evening, March 24, at the Symposium Headquarters; there will be informal presentations and hospitality. If you would like to show some of your own slides please note details when making your registration.

Saturday, March 25; lectures, interspersed with opportunities to view an Iris Exhibition. Saturday evening; banquet and lecture by Brian Mathew, on Iris in their native habitats.

Sunday morning, March 26; lectures, afternoon early departures or informal visit to the Botanical Gardens. Sunday afternoon; open meeting of SIGNA.

Photo Contest

Cash awards for best color iris photograph will be given. \$100.00 first prize. \$50.00 second prize, \$25.00 third prize and five fourth prizes of \$10.00 each. Photos will be judged on composition, rareness of species or species cross, and technical excellence. Winners will be announced at the end of the symposium and published in SIGNA. For rules and additional information write to Symposium Chairman, Bob Pries, 6023 Antire Rd., High Ridge, MO 63049. U.S.A.

Iris Exhibition

Due to the problems involved in timing bloom, no promises are made, but an exhibition of irises from all classes and sections will be attempted. Participants wishing to have irises on exhibit may make arrangements with the Symposium Chairman as soon as possible. Flowers brought the day of the show by participants are welcomed and encouraged, but alerting the Symposium Chairman beforehand will insure a proper exhibition space. Those wishing to exhibit plants and flowers, please contact Symposium Chairman, Bob Pries, 6023 Antire Rd., High Ridge MO. 63049. (314) 677-8805.

About the Speakers:

Brian Mathew is much appreciated by irisarians for his work *The Iris*, in which he not only presents a comprehensive botanical review of the genus iris but adds note on their culture from personal experience of growing many of them in his own garden. In preparing the iris section of the *Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands*, he had the opportunity to see and photograph many iris species in their native environments. He has many publications to his credit including: *Hellebores*; *The Crocus*; and *The Smaller Bulbs*.

Peter Goldblatt is Curator of African Botany at the Missouri Botanical Garden. As a specialist in the iridaceae he has published several monographs on genera within the iris family, including *Dieramas*; *Moreas*; and *Woody Iridaceae*. These wonderful works have set a standard not only for plant systematists but as understandable references for the garden enthusiast. Peter Goldblatt will address us on the Evolution of the Iridaceae.

Panayoti Kelaidis is a long time iris enthusiast and member of SIGNA. He is curator of the rock alpine garden at the Denver Botanical Gardens and one of

today's premier garden lecturers and photographers. He will be returning from collecting and photographing in the Drakensburg Mountains of South Africa. He will show us what can be accomplished with irises in his renowned rock garden.

James Waddick now with two expeditions to China aided by The American Iris Society and SIGNA, has a unique expertise on Asian irises. An iris enthusiast and plantsman of the highest order, Jim grows most of the irises he has seen and is responsible for the introduction to this country of many unusual plants. His book *Iris of China* chronicles some of his adventures as well as providing a valuable China iris flora.

Jean Witt is a plantswoman and artist. Jean has a lengthy legacy of contributions to The American Iris Society. She has experimented with many types of iris in her hybridizing and contributed greatly to setting the standards for miniature tall bearded irises in the garden. She has named the class of Siberian Iris X Pacific Coast Natives, Cal-sibes. She is concerned about the preservation of species and also enthusiastic about potential hybridizing.

Phil Ogilvie has traveled through America's Southern swamps to view the Louisiana iris species and attempt to understand their plethora of natural hybrids. Gardening in the Washington D.C. area, he brings an understanding of how these water plants can be grown in upland gardens.

Darryl Probst is a landscape designer and hybridizer in Massachusetts. Darryl has interests in the temperate and tropical 'Crested' iris and the hybrid Pardoncandas. Developed by Sam Norris these 'Candy Lilies' have been carried a step further with Darryl's persistence.

Alan McMurtrie is an enthusiast of bulbous irises, including *Reticulatas* and *Junos*. Alan traveled to Turkey in an effort to find fertile *Iris danfordiae*: He is presently working on monographs of these popular iris groups. An expert plantsman, he grows many of these unusual irises from seed to flowering in his native Canada.

Eberhard Schuster operates a perennial and water garden nursery in Germany. He has been growing and observing irises in water gardens for several years. He has developed some of his own cultivars and hybrids. He is active in the introduction of new plants of his own and those of other leading European plantsmen.

Colin Rigby, owner and operator of Portable Acres Iris Gardens, has specialized in the growing of Pacific Coast Native irises. Some of his unique propagation methods have allowed people in less favorable climates the chance to grow and bloom these spectacular species.

Dave Niswonger has won the highest award of The American Iris Society (the Dykes Medal) for a tall bearded iris he has hybridized; however, one cannot overlook his interest in spuria irises. He has learned how to grow and hybridize, exceptionally well, this lesser known group of iris species in Southeast Missouri.

Bob Pries, dwarf bearded iris species enthusiast, is interested in rock gardening and wild gardens. The harsh continental climate in St. Louis calls for plants that can take extremes, irises have met this qualification.

This list of subjects and topics can be subject to change.



Betty and Glenn Bowers

THE GARDENS OF 75 IN '95

THE GLENBOW GARDEN

An enduring interest in growing things incited my desire for irises after I was first exposed to some of the newer tall bearded in 1987. So, in 1988 when our son bought the house next door, we made plans to develop his yard with various plants. In June and July, 1989, we purchased about 100 rhizomes at the sales by the Susquehanna Iris Society, which we joined. We also joined AIS. Subsequently, we procured rhizomes from various hybridizers and growers across the country.

There are now nearly 600 irises, mostly tall bearded, in the 15 raised beds. Other beds and sites contain trees, shrubs, grasses, lilies, mums, daffodils, and a host of other perennials and annuals.

The vegetable garden was converted to raised beds to accommodate 215 rhizomes for the 1995 convention garden.

As a retired professional wildlife administrator and an avid fisherman, hunter, and golfer, I am constantly bombarded with the question, "Why in the world are you interested in irises?" You know the answer, so welcome to the Glenbow Garden.

Glenn Bowers

THE GRIFFIE GARDEN

Gayle and Harold Griffie have been growing irises since 1976 when they purchased their first plants from Sterling Innerst after a chance meeting with him at an iris show in a York mall. Gayle had grown up with irises as her mother and aunt both had large backyard collections of irises. Harold grew up on a dairy farm where the "flags" were mowed off after bloom. A visit to Sterling's garden was all

it took to set the hook. Those first ten rhizomes grew quickly to a collection of over 800 varieties of mostly TBs.

These first irises were grown on "borrowed" ground at Gayle's home and at Harold's mother's farm. In 1981-82 they moved their collection to a former peach orchard adjoining Gayle's home. About this time the Siberian/Japanese bug bit, and a collection of these was added that has since grown to over 200 of each while the TB collection has been reduced.

All of the guests and regular collection of TBs are planted in newly formed concentric semicircular raised display beds. These beds were rejuvenated with generous helpings of mushroom soil, fertilizer, and other organic materials which the irises seem to like as they survived one of the worst winters on record here in Pennsylvania.

Gayle is an elementary school principal, and Harold teaches high school mathematics and physics. Both are active members of community organizations. They are pleased to share their garden with all of the conventioners celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of The American Iris Society.

Gayle and Harold Griffie



Harold and Gayle Griffie



Barbara and Sterling Innerst

THE INNERST GARDEN

The Innerst garden was established at its present location twenty years ago, however, Sterling has been growing irises for over 30 years. He has been hybridizing for twenty-five plus years and has introduced irises in all the bearded classes except miniature dwarfs. Sterling also hybridizes Japanese and has some Siberian seedlings coming along.

Barbara and Sterling have an extensive collection of orchids, many different kinds numbering in the thousands. They also grow many annuals and perennials, including over a thousand tetraploid daylilies. Barbara's hobby is to collect iris artifacts, and she has well over one thousand different pieces.

Sterling is a retired educator, and Barbara is still teaching challenged students in the Dover Area School District. Coal, the dog, Pippi and Pebbles the cats, and the geese will greet you in '95.

Sterling and Barbara Innerst

THE LEADER GARDEN

Jason and Pat Leader spent 23 years gardening around the world while Jason was in the U.S. Army. Iris growing in Virginia, Indiana, and Hawaii are testament to this. Their love of irises was spawned by Jason's dad and mother, Helen and Palmer Leader. Since retiring from the army, they built a new house and are starting their collection of the favorite flower, the iris, from scratch. With more than two acres, both plan to have many irises with which to "grow to grow old together."

Jason and Pat Leader

MANLEY GARDEN

Tom first became interested in irises in the 1930s as an undergraduate college student. He did a lot of hybridizing early on, especially early pinks. In 1942 he enlisted in the Air Force which brought a halt to his hybridizing program.

As a graduate student, Tom wrote his thesis concerning the origin of the tangerine beard factor. As he moved around the world during his Air Force

career, he had the opportunity to come in contact with many of yesteryear's productive hybridizers. This included Lapham, Cook, Salbach, and Mitchell to name a few.

Study, teaching, and research on the college level took most of Tom's time until 1982. At this time, retirement allowed the iris interest to flourish again.

Over 500 varieties, planted in ten, 5' x 8' raised beds, feature a bed of the finest irises available in each color class. Wide grass walkways between level beds ensure comfortable viewing of the irises. You will see nearly 200 guests here. Tom also has a planting of the irises he first grew in 1937.

Tom Manley



Jason and Pat Leader



Tom Manley

MARQUART GARDENS

Terry and Susan Marquart have established a new garden after rescuing Terry's mother's irises after she passed away. With the help of several Susquehanna Valley Iris Society members, the irises were dug, marked, moved, and planted at their new home. All will be two-year-old clumps come '95.

Dorothea had produced several good horned irises in her hybridizing program devoted entirely to horned irises. One of Susan and Terry's favorites is Dorothea's "Pink Diablo." It is pink with blue horns. It is registered, but never introduced. They also cherish STEPPING OUT which is the first iris Susan had grown. Besides irises they grow many lilacs, yucca, and rose of sharon bushes.

Marquart irises have been secured at local sales of the Susquehanna Iris Society, the annual regional meetings, and various mail order catalogs. Many members of the local group have been a treasured source of knowledge, guidance, and friendship. You will share in Terry and Susan's excitement as you visit their hillside covered with irises.

Terry and Susan Marquart

THE ROJAHN GARDEN

After graduating from Shippensburg and Penn State University, Carl and Gloria Rojahn spent the combined total of the next sixty-three years teaching in the school systems of Pennsylvania.

Presently, they both are enjoying retirement, working with irises and other plants, and being assisted by their two cats, Dusty and Sophie.

They have been growing irises for thirty plus years, with both having fond memories of their parents and grandparents growing irises in their wonderful gardens.

At the present, they are growing two hundred and fifty varieties of tall bearded, plus another two hundred and fifty convention guest irises which are enjoying a two-year visit.

Their home and garden sit on a one-acre plot in a typical suburban area of York, Pennsylvania.

Welcome to 75 in '95!

Carl and Gloria Rojahn

THE STRAWSER GARDENS

Our adventure with irises began in 1983 in Colorado. I traded a pickup load of peat moss for a car trunk load of irises. We had some very nice ones but didn't know the name of a single one. And, at that time, it really didn't matter. We mulched them, watered them, and enjoyed them—no rot, no borers, and I never noticed any leaf spot.

Then we moved back home to Pennsylvania and bought more. Our yard now has seventeen beds with about 600 plants and with them, all the troubles an iris grower in Pennsylvania can have. We do, however, now know the names of all our varieties.

We hope you enjoy our gardens in 1995 when you will be greeted by Callie, our Australian Blue Heeler.

Don and Ruth Strawser

1995 CONVENTION GARDEN HOST



**Terry and
Sue Marguart**



**Carl and
Gloria Rojahn**



**Donald and
Ruth Strawser**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan, Editor

This year the Society for Japanese Irises bestowed its highest award, Honorary Life Membership, on Bee Warburton. This was, of course, just the most recent of the many awards given to Bee over the years for her varied and vast contributions to "the world of irises." One of her contributions was the column in the *Bulletin* on international news. When, at the spring meeting, the AIS Board of Directors discussed the gap left in the *Bulletin* since Bee discontinued the column, a volunteer was sought to reestablish it. And so, as Alexander Pope expressed it, "... the angels fear to tread."

As I pondered how to begin this column, the most recent *Bulletin* of the New Zealand Iris Society arrived in the mail. The very same day I received a warm and informative letter from my "robin" friend Hilmary Catton, who is both Robin Director and Colour Slide Distributor for the New Zealand Iris Society. Believing these arrivals must be a sign, a bit of news on "irising" in New Zealand seems in order.

The New Zealand Iris Society, which will soon celebrate its 50th anniversary, has 15 active groups in various regions of the island nation. As it advises its new members, it provides a "seed pool;" the *Bulletin* issued 3 times a year; postal book and slide libraries; a 3-day Annual Convention; a Weekend Dwarf Safari; Species Treks and Garden Visits; active Regional Groups; and sections for species irises and for dwarf and median irises.

Ron Isles of Christchurch is President of the Society at present. *Bulletin* editor is Gwenda Harris. The *Bulletin* is packed full of well-written, interesting articles. The most recent issue has many articles on Juno irises as well as articles on other subjects such as *li. lactea*, *pamphylica* and *foetidissima*.

The New Zealand Iris Society is planning on voting for a New Zealand bred iris to receive the Australasian Dykes Medal this year. This will be a first. In the future the Australasian Dykes Medal will alternate each year between Australia and New Zealand. A Dykes Test Garden has been established in three different locations in New Zealand. This past year New Zealand judges selected two irises to receive an Award of Merit: a Siberian, EMMA RIPEKA (Frances Love, R. 90) and a spuria, KIWI GOLD (Hector Collins, R. 90).

Overseas members are graciously welcomed by the New Zealand Iris Society and dues are quite reasonable. For information, contact the Secretary, Mr. Paul Richardson, 78 Thackeray Street, Upper Hutt, New Zealand. The Society's Annual Convention will be held this year in Central Otago on November 18-21. Registration is \$85 (New Zealand dollars), with an optional day (lunch provided) at \$25 (NZ). For information on the convention, contact Mrs. Mary Jones, Accommodation Secretary, 18 Arnott Street, Alexandra, Central Otago.

One additional bit of news about the Australasian Dykes Medal, which is voted "down under" but awarded by the British Iris Society: the 1993 Dykes Gold Medal was won by DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY, a Louisiana iris bred by John Taylor.

ONE WAY TO PLANT BEARDED IRIS SEEDS

Paul Black (Oklahoma)

There are probably as many ways to germinate bearded iris seeds as there are hybridizers planting them. Each of us has worked out some effective method to do this, based on our area's climatic conditions. One must also take into account other factors such as space limitations and whether areas where seed is germinated are to be used at a later time to grow named varieties. The following is what I have found to be effective for this region and my particular situation. What works here may or may not work in other areas without some adaptations. After having worked out all the kinks, I can now count on 70 to 80 per cent germination each year.

The seeds have been gathered, and this is where I already make a bit of a departure from some others, I rarely let the pod ripen to the point that it splits open. I harvest pods when they are beginning to shrivel and turn tan in color. After a couple of weeks of harvesting, I feel that what is remaining has reached enough maturity to be harvested, and I cut all remaining pods. I cut the ends off the pods with a knife and make a slit along the length of them. This allows me to pull the pod open and release the seeds into a cup to dry. If there are too many seeds to dry easily in the confines of a cup, I place them on a small paper plate to dry, then dump them, along with the tag, into cups which can then be stacked until it is time to plant. I have never seen any lack of germination from this slightly early harvesting method. It also saves having to pick up shattered seed off the ground and probably missing some that later sprout and become a rogue in the named plantings. Neither does it seem to diminish the supply of food available to keep the seedlings growing once they have germinated.

After recording all the parentages, I am ready to plant the seed. Anytime from Halloween to Christmas seems to work quite well here. Normally, I try to plant around the third week in November, close to Thanksgiving. It seems a fitting way to celebrate Thanksgiving. I am thankful there are seeds and even more thankful when they germinate and are planted in the spring.

There are several requirements that must be met in one way or another for bearded iris seeds to germinate. The first is that there needs to be a period of chilling lasting at least six weeks with temperatures being below 40 degrees F. The other is that the dormancy factor in the seeds needs to be leached away with a quantity of water after they are planted. The endosperm must be hydrated to be able to germinate. The seed must have oxygen in order to germinate. The chilling requirement is easily met here since we certainly have at least six weeks when it goes below 40 degrees. The other requirements are explained in the following text.

I choose to plant the seeds in one gallon plastic pots so that I don't have to worry about dormant seeds lying around here and there in the garden if they had been planted into the ground. I shuffle plants around too much to have to worry about this. I use a commercial potting mix that is about equal parts of peat moss,

ground bark, vermiculite and sand. This makes for a rather light planting mixture and some of my planting techniques compensate for that.

The pots that I use have four to six wide drainage holes in the bottom, and to keep the potting mix from running out with the water, I use coffee filters and place them in the bottom of the pots. This works well for potting house plants too. With the filters in place, I add the potting mix and tamp it down with the bottom of another pot until it is about 2-1/2 inches from the top. I then sprinkle the seed over the mix with sometimes as many as 60 to 80 seeds in the pot. Because the potting mix is light, I cover the seeds with about one inch of mix and again tamp it down with the bottom of another pot. This is all done assembly line fashion.

To help moderate the temperature of the pots and also help keep moisture levels constant, I sink the pots in the ground. I dig a trench not quite as deep as the pots and make sure that the lower part of the trench is V shaped. This is so the soil doesn't pack around the drain holes and create a swamp in which the seeds have to reside. With an open space below the pots, the water is free to flow easily out of the pots. This helps achieve two of the requirements. First, it lets me run plenty of water over the seeds to leach out the dormancy factor, and secondly, it keeps the potting mix from becoming soggy and thus depriving the seeds of oxygen needed to germinate.

The next step is to put a mulch of ground leaves, straw, pine needles or whatever is available. I do this for two reasons. The potting mix is quite light, and if there is nothing to break the falling water, the seeds will float to the top and never germinate. It also provides all the other benefits of a mulch by keeping the moisture and temperatures constant.

Pots should be watered weekly except when they are frozen. Fortunately, the latter is often the case here. The easiest way to water, although not the most consistent, is to lay a rubber soaker hose over the top of the pots and let it run until the water flows through the mix. The other way is to use a break water on the end of the hose to provide a fine spray of water that doesn't disturb the mix too much. Of course, there is always the hope that "mother nature" will take care of the watering. As the weather begins to warm and the potting mix begins to dry more quickly, it is imperative that the mix never dry out or the seeds will not germinate. Do not equate this with keeping the mix soggy or, again, the seed will not germinate from lack of oxygen.

The most exciting time is early March when the potting mix begins to have a humped up appearance. This soil is being pushed up by the seeds germinating beneath it. You have now achieved success.

Here in Oklahoma, it is common to get two or three weeks of very warm weather in mid February and this will often start the seeds germinating. For this reason, I keep a plastic tarp and mulch around to protect the seedlings in the event that temperatures are going to be in the low 20s. Unprotected, the newly sprouted seedlings will freeze and die.

As the new sprouts begin to grow, I fertilize them with a 1/4 strength fertilizer solution with each watering. About six weeks after they have germinated and are about two inches high, I knock them out of the pots and plant them in the garden and hope for that next Award of Merit winner or better yet—dream big, a Dykes Medal winner.

Many of these techniques, I have learned the hard way. One year I used garden soil instead of potting mix, and the water didn't drain well. There was very little germination that year. Another year, we had a very warm February, and I wasn't aware that the seeds were germinating. Then, it dropped to 10 degrees. There was less than 1/2 percent germination that year. As with growing anything, "mother nature" always has something new to throw at us, and even the best of plans will still meet with disaster at some time. When it happens again, I'll let you know what adjustment I have made to counter it.

PERFORMANCE REPORT ON CONTAINER GROWING

Edward R. Myhro (California)

This is a follow-up on the article on container culture that appeared in *Bulletin* #288, January, 1993. The bloom season began on March 10 with LO YO SILVER and ended on April 20 with SNOW MOUND. The irises grown were all bearded irises except for one Louisiana, ACADIAN MISS. This bloomed on April 29.

Success rate of bloom was almost 100% with BREAKERS being the only one not to bloom. As reported in the last article, I grow tall bearded irises in 5-gallon pots and all dwarfs in 1-gallon pots. Some of the things I noticed from container culture are:

Growth is very vigorous in the pots with no floppy growth at all. Increase was very good. This may have more to do with variety, but good increase seemed to be consistent with all. The show of flowers was spectacular as all my neighbors can attest. I place the irises on concrete blocks to keep them off the ground. I garden around the blocks with various plants and ground covers to camouflage them. All the pots are kept in my back yard area, and as they come into bloom, I move them out front to the concrete blocks. Using this method I can "rotate" the pots as they finish blooming. This year, I had enough varieties to cover a whole bloom season. There was always an iris in bloom. I also have some irises planted in the ground to add effect around the pots.

I had very little leaf spot on the potted irises. When I did, I sprayed them along with the ones grown in the ground. I had no rot because of good drainage, no pest problems to speak of, and no soil-borne diseases because I use fresh potting soil. I divide and repot after each year so they do not become pot bound.

My only real problem is that I am going to have too many plants, and I will have to sell some or go broke on pots and soil! I welcome all questions or comments at my home address: Ed Myhro, P.O. Box 151, Cathey's Valley, CA 95306.



**Members of the Cooley Family
in front of one of the company buildings.**

COOLEY'S GARDEN

Jim Morris (Missouri)

In a word, awesome. To those of us who are backyard gardeners, with our small patch of irises, it is overpowering to see the complete patchwork quilt of our favorite flower in such a large setting. It was, to borrow one of Rick Ernst's iris names, "PARADISE FOUND" when we arrived at Cooley's Garden in Silverton, Oregon. Rick personally welcomed us to the gardens where the bloom was absolutely at peak on a glorious afternoon of bright sunshine. Later on, after about three hours of non-stop iris viewing with picture and note taking, the tent sun-screen and cold soda/beer refreshments were much appreciated—As were the zero calorie cookies.

Before beginning varietal comment, I believe a few words are appropriate regarding the extensive display garden. Developed over a ten-year period, it includes rows of Cooley iris introductions; a Japanese theme garden complete with gazebo, recycling brook and pond; earth berms planted with azaleas, pines and dwarf conifers; and a surprisingly large lawn area edged with more irises. We enjoyed the antique auto display, the indoor display of iris arrangements, the tee shirt choices, the wine tasting and the catalog and calendar gifts. I was also allowed a quick tour of the office area which was in full operation even as 400 plus irisarians were touring the gardens.

Just as it is impossible for you and me to grow them all, it is impossible to see them all in a commercial garden of such enormity of 250 acres. The convention guests were planted in ten double-wide raised beds for ease of viewing.

CHAMPAGNE WISHES (Keppel '92) had multiple stalks in dusky orange with a tangerine beard. LEAPING DOLPHIN (Hager '92) leaped out at you on the corner of one bed. It is a wide medium blue. PRIVATE STOCK (Hamblen '91)

was a smoked lavender over deep purple that would grace any garden. GAL-LANT ROGUE (Blyth '90) performed well with lavender standards over plum-maroon falls edged lavender with bright tangerine beards completing the scene.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF (Carr '88) was especially floriferous. This tall yellow over lemon had five bloom stalks from each rhizome and still had increase remaining. HEAVENLY THERESE (Carr '89) was a clean pink with three to four open blooms on each stalk. BEATRICE CHERBUY (Cayeux '91) was a wonderful clump of lavender-white over deep lavender. Haft markings and a tangerine beard added to its beauty.

As expected, Rick Ernst's introductions were performing well as "guests" in their home garden. They included SMILING GOLD (Ernst '91) a buff yellow over lavender cream blend edged with a fourth inch of buff yellow with yellow beards and great stalks.

It looks super planted next to his COMPETITIVE EDGE ('91) a bit of serendipity we experienced when we guested them both for the Region 18 Spring Tour last year. Also looking nice was THINKING OUT LOUD (Ernst '94) a lacy, fancy soft yellow over wine lavender blend with yellow orange beards. There are white lines down the fall centers and the tall stalks show off the flowers well. RAINBOW GODDESS (Ernst '94) is impressive in mauve over cream blended orange at the hafts. There are plenty of ruffles and big tangerine beards as well. Especially showy, was FIRE PIT (Ernst '92) in beige wine over red wine with golden beards. We loved the good branching and nice wide form.

Friendly competitor irises from Schreiners were well grown. Included was DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiners '86) the dark purple self with great branching. The clump effect was impressive, and it looked better here than in its home garden at Schreiner's. COTE D'OR (Schreiners '92) was stunning with brilliant yellow gold flowers of enormous size.

GRAPES OF WRATH (Durrance '89) looked good in grape purple with lighter area in the falls. MISTY LADY (Sides '94) was an excellent lavender amoena flaring in the sunshine. A Keppel seedling, 86-56A, was impressive in bi-tones of smoky red with tangerine beards. MUSES' FIRE a future intro by B. Williamson looked super in smoky mauve with lavender blaze and red beards. BURNT CRISP (Burseen '93) was a real conversation piece as the coloration and the crinkled edges made it look like its name. The standards are brown and falls are chocolate brown with darker veining. Hafts and beards are yellow.

XANTHIPPE'S HALO (Niswonger '92) was bright in wine over amethyst edged in wine. Beards are yellow and branching is great. Just as bright was MARTHA'S GOLD (Aitken '91) a neon yellow self. Pretty in lace, was DRESDEN DANCER (John R. Knaus '90). This soft, well branched lilac bi-tone is almost an amoena. Also decked out in pink lace was FEMME FATALE (Gatty '88). The huge pink beards are attractive as are the show stalks.

REGAL AFFAIR (Shoop '90) was beautiful as a purple amoena with the classic Shoop tangerine beard. An outstanding gold iris is O MY GOLD (Stanek '94). It has good color intensity. ISLAND DANCER (Shoop '91) caught my eye in shades of tan and gold. LUCILLE RICHARDSON (Richardson '92) is nice in white over lavender red with a zonal pattern. I saw KAH-NEE-TA (Ernst '89) for the first time and liked this TB version of the IB JOHN (Ensminger '90). Both have red brown standards and gold falls.

How many of you saw the most unique Ernst TB seedlings? This KF 125 series all had black purple stalks. We will be watching for this feature in future introductions as we find it very attractive.

The growth of the irises at Cooleys was phenomenal. Too phenomenal, in the case of the border bearded class with many growing too tall and out of proportion. One BB that was well within class and looking great was LOW SPIRITS (Keppel '94). This fancy purple with pink interior has the same pattern as Keith's TB, SPIRIT WORLD ('94). Although my wife, Jean, has commented elsewhere in this *BULLETIN* regarding Medians, I would be remiss if I didn't mention two MTBs that were performing well. They are OZARK DREAM (K. Fisher '92) blue over darker blue black and CAROL'S DREAM (Dunderman '90) a wonderful light blue self.

Our thanks to the Cooley family for providing such a beautiful environment and offering their kind hospitality during our visit with them. We felt we had found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Rick Ernst (2nd from left) takes Jack Durrance (hat) and two others out to view seedlings



AN AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Anne Lowe (Virginia)

In 1969, Mike and I placed our first commercial iris order with Cooley's Gardens. Little did I know that twenty-five years later we would actually be standing in these gardens. Neither did I expect to be responsible for preparing a garden write-up of the world's largest iris growers for the *AIS Bulletin*.

I had seen the acres of iris blooming in the commercial fields as we approached the site of our afternoon tour, and I thought I was ready for this garden visit. I knew the plantings would be large, but I was in no way prepared for the visual impact of thousands of irises in full and glorious bloom that greeted us as we stepped off the bus. I fear my greeting to our host, Rick Ernst, was somewhat perfunctory as I couldn't keep my eyes off the masses of color just beyond the refreshment tent. I spoke briefly to Cooley granddaughters Georgie and Judy who were setting out all sorts of cold drinks and munchies—and I remember

being impressed by the aplomb with which the resident collie accepted the hundreds of pairs of feet moving past him. However, as I stood at the edge of the rows and rows of guest irises, my only thought was “Where do I start?”

The bulk of the crowd headed for the guest beds, so I elected to begin with the display beds located in the opposite direction. My first stop was the large sign which proclaimed this as Cooley’s Gardens. This entrance area was beautifully landscaped with Japanese maples and large clumps of a yellow iris (whose name I didn’t get) and spectacular clumps of AFTERNOON DELIGHT (Ernst ’85) which promised just that. A little farther on, behind an attractive iron fence, was the commercial display area where grassy paths led among raised beds, some of which were headed by low growing evergreens—perhaps *hinoki* cypress. The iris plantings lying below the fence were backed with banks of pale green ivy—this I recognized! At intervals throughout the beds were planted Birdnest Spruce (named for the nestlike shape) which added just the right touch of height. Here were the new and the not so new irises; many were familiar; as many more were not. Most were tall with very large blooms and healthy foliage. Mindful that I had a lot of ground to cover, I started walking the paths and making notes.

A large clump of NEW DAWNING (Ernst ’90), a large lacy yellow with creamy falls, banded and laced lemon yellow, contrasted nicely with rosy orchid PRISSY MISS (Gaulter ’83). From Schreiner’s, the huge deep purple DUSKY CHALLENGER (’86) provided vivid contrast to the orange OLYMPIC CHALLENGE (’85). TOBACCO LAND (Powell ’87) a rich deep brown with ruffled falls, rusty red veins on the shoulders and light green below a green gold beard, impressed me because good modern browns are a rarity in my garden. And more additions to the note pad . . . the blue lavender froth of BUBBLING OVER (Ghio ’82); SPRING SPLENDOR (Ernst ’91), a soft blend whose pale rosy tan falls were edged old gold; subtle groupings such as the yellow EASTERTIME (Schreiner’s ’80) and blue ST. LOUIS BLUES (Schreiner’s ’79) planted next to EDITH WOLFORD; peachy ELSIEMAE NICHOLSON (Corlew ’86) was backed by the green-gold standards and velvet brownish falls of SUBTLE HINT (Ernst ’91); SKY SEARCH (Gaulter ’92), pale blue with deeper blue circles on the falls; an old favorite from George Shoop, LATIN LOVER (’69); dark red DANGER (Gatty ’84) was aptly named; TIGER BUTTER (Ernst ’86) a variegata with a difference—frills and a green-gold rim; DESERT ECHO (D. Meek ’80), always good, was larger than I had ever seen it; RAVENS QUOTE, brand new from Ernst (1994), a silky rich dark blue-purple that immediately went on my Want List. I loved RAINBOW GODDESS, a reverse bicolor with smoky orchid standards, pale orchid falls bearing orange-tan shoulders and red beard—another 1994 intro from Ernst; dark red TIMES TAPESTRY (Ernst ’93) and bright orange FANCY LADY (Shoop ’87) and farther on, more red and orange provided by OKTOBERFEST (Maryott ’87) and SHANIKO (Meek ’83).

The following classics were notable: the outstanding white SKATING PARTY (Gaulter ’83), impressive in its home garden; KAH-NEE-TA (Ernst ’89), lovely in red-brown and banded gold; BOY FRIEND (Williamson ’86) a bright golden tan. Some other colorful clumps were GOLD COUNTRY (Ghio ’87); raspberry blended MULLED WINE (Keppel ’82)—doesn’t grow like this for me; the vivid blue HILO SHORE (Gaulter ’81); deep red-black SUPERSTITION (Schreiner’s

'77) and a little farther on, their older blue-black NIGHT OWL ('70). SCHORTMAN'S GARNET RUFFLES was a disappointment—I expected it to be bigger and better here. NAVY CHANT (Luihn '82), a rich deep purple unfamiliar to me, was backed by the pure gold of MONEY (Roe '77) and, speaking of yellow irises, BANANA FRAPPE (Ernst '91), enormous blooms of crepe laced medium gold with an orange-gold beard—super! You don't need a close-up lens for this one! CHARISMA (Blocher '76), a frilled blue with lighter shading on the falls; SYNCOPATION (Gatty '84), always eye-catching; PINK SWAN (Gibson '84) was the only really pink iris in this garden, although PARADISE (Gatty '80) ran it a close second.

At the bottom of the display area the conifers, which grow so beautifully in Oregon, along with red barberry and golden arborvitae provided a colorful contrast to the iris. I followed the path that wound between these shrubs, across the bridge and beyond the gazebo. Here I spotted a magnificent 3-foot-tall peach pink seedling, HD 175-D, with 3 branches, and 7-10 buds which provided a tremendous garden effect with its lush color. Here also was my first close look at Rick Ernst's 1991 bright and unique AMBER TAMBOUR whose stunning color effect was somewhat spoiled by its proximity to the green-gold ENVY (Ernst '90)—both are beautiful but should be widely separated in the garden to take advantage of the effect of these vivid colors. Good old INTERPOL ('73) was shoulder high with dinner plate size blooms and the 1979 ISLAND FIESTA from Gordon Plough, medium blue, stippled and striped, was eyecatching; George Shoop's BLAZING LIGHT ('83) was spectacular here as well.

I was impressed by the landscape effect of many evergreens and shrubs none of which were familiar to me. One of our European guests came to my rescue and identified dwarf gorse (*ulex*) and an Australian (or was it New Zealand?) conifer with the impossible name *sciadopitys*—an umbrella fir I think. My thanks to the lady for taking the time to help me out. On my way back to the main attraction (a.k.a. the guest iris plantings), I noted CARNIVAL SONG ('94) and COTE D'OR ('92) from Schreiner's; STAR FLEET, a 1993 Keppel creation that I had admired in other gardens, Innerst's PURE AS THE ('89) and MUSES' FIRE, a smoky lavender with a blue area below the orange beard, introduced by Ken Mohr in 1993.

The clock was running so I only caught a glimpse of the flower show area and the Cooley's Catalog display which lined the walls of the exhibition hall—I knew if I stopped there I would never get to the guests! I was tiring and hampered by an ailing ankle, plus the fact that Mike, who usually tours guests with me, was off photographing for the *Bulletin*—how was I going to cover the guest beds in the remaining time? Enter Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg, our knowledgeable and thoughtful friend! (I suspect that Mike might have had a hand in Lloyd's timely appearance.) I must admit that I tend to be strongly attracted by iris color, so it was great to have Lloyd along to say "Yes, the color is unique, exciting, beautiful but . . . 3 buds, no branches, snaky stems and out-of-proportion flower?" With his help I managed to note the following: AFTER THE STORM (Innerst '92) a pretty blue with a lavender cast—I like BEFORE THE STORM better. Perhaps too much like VANITY but perfectly lovely was HEAVENLY THERESE (Carr '89). Joe Gatty's HIGH DRAMA ('91) was well named and just that—dramatic. LOW SPIRITS

(Keppel '94) BB was seen in several gardens and is part of the interesting and arresting SPIRIT WORLD and MIND READER group. It was a little tall here as were many of the borders. The triangular shape of DELTAPLANE (Cayeux '91) was interesting; this iris has horizontal blue-purple falls, pale blue standards and a yellow beard. TOPAZ JEWEL (L. Miller '91) was a glorious gold, banded and frilled. Also from Lynda was BITTERSWEET JOY (4789A), a smooth cool orange with yellow attractively spread on the falls.

FRENCH FASHION (8826B) from Paul Black presented itself in deeply smoked orchid/mauve tones with an orange beard—it is impossible to do this color justice with words; 881-16B, (P. Black again), was frilled like a purple petunia—different. Among the MTBs, OZARK JEWEL and OZARK DREAM from Ken Fisher (1992) were both blooming in class—no mean feat in this area where things seem to grow larger than life. Although it was late for IBs, LEMON WHIP ('93) from Carol Lankow was a truly edible pale yellow and white confection with rounded form and perfect size—I must have this one.

PRISM VIEW (Ernst '92) showed a nice mix of color among the old and newly opened flowers—it fades gracefully; ISLAND DANCER (Shoop '91) showed good contrast and nice form; MAVIS WAVES ('94) from Mitch Jameson, one of the best bicolors I saw, with smoky pinkish-mauve standards, smoky lavender falls and a blue tipped beard, was well branched with 6-7 buds. Here again was colorful AMBER TAMBOUR with not-so-great branching but again an excellent garden effect. CONFECTIONERY (Ernst '91) an improved PINK 'N MINT, also exhibited less than ideal branching. G102-1 (Ernst) was different and pleasing—the smoky orchid standards had an infusion of violet; the creamy falls, verging on chartreuse, were set off by apricot buff hafts and tangerine beards. COMPETITIVE EDGE (Ernst '91) is an improved INDIAN CERAMICS or is it GINGER SWIRL? Anyway, this frilled beauty will bear watching and is high on my list. It was uniformly good wherever I saw it. I also liked WINE DYNASTY (Hamblen '91) with streaked apricot standards, raspberry red falls and a bright orange-red beard. DIFFERENT APPROACH (Innerst '91), a pale Edith Wolford type, with 9 buds, had 4 open blooms with no confusion or interference—a great iris for the show bench. R687-E2 (R. Glasshoff) sported a frilled flower of pleasing smooth honey color with a wire rimmed edge and gold lace on the falls, good branching and lots of buds—will watch for this one at the next Region 4 spring meeting.

At this point I was ready for one of the cool drinks available under the tent; my ankle was screaming “Enough!” and Lloyd was off to consult with another hybridizer about some pollen. It was time to put away my notes, sit back and reflect on the magnificence I had seen, and to touch base with some friends from another bus.

When the whistle blew there was just time to thank our hosts and board the bus. It was an unusually quiet bus ride back to Portland—perhaps we were all victims of sensory overload. At any rate, the visit to Cooley's Garden was a dream come true for many of us—a once-in-a-lifetime occasion that will not be forgotten. Thanks to all of you who made it possible for us to come.



**Terry and Barbara
Aitken**

SALMON CREEK GARDEN OF TERRY AND BARBARA AITKEN

Ramona Howard (Texas)

Our bus arrived at the garden in Vancouver, Washington, early on Tuesday morning of the convention, which is a perfect time to view all of the marvelous irises when they are at their peak of brilliant colors. Although Terry and Barbara have been interested in irises for many years, they have lived in this location since 1977 in a two-story home designed by Terry.

When the Aitkens first purchased the property, it was a pasture, so all of the trees on the property have been planted since 1977. It had originally been a fruit farm, but the fruit trees had been cut down before it was purchased by the Aitkens. The home is surrounded by many different types of trees including several different types of cherry trees, Lambert, Royal Ann and a red pie cherry. There are numerous pine trees and a large variegated holly that has beautiful red berries. The Aitkens have stems dipped in late fall, and they last throughout the holidays. Trees on the side of their home were Hinoki Cypress and golden Hinoki Cypress, and they also had a corkscrew willow and walnut trees. In addition to the trees, other plants included peonies, rhododendrons, azaleas, hostas and daylilies.

To the left of their drive was a new orchid greenhouse which houses at least 250 named varieties and a thousand seedlings. In addition to Terry's hobby with the orchids, he and George Shoop are now experimenting with hostas and hybridizing for variegated foliage.

There were six beds of convention guest irises planted about midway in the garden, five for bearded and one for the beardless. The first iris I was drawn to was a red/black TB with a bronze beard, BLACK AS NIGHT (Duane Meek '92) that had nice branching, was well spaced and looked really good. I must have been impressed, as I took a picture of it when I first started looking at the garden and

another before I left. Schreiner's '93 introduction of HELLO DARKNESS was about finished blooming, but it is still one of the best near blacks I have seen. Another one of Schreiner's, NEW CENTURION '93, had very rich color of light red/brown standards and dark, velvety red/brown falls with good form. A dark iris I especially liked was an older one, BLACKOUT (Luihn '86) which was performing very well. BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '90), a very dark black-purple, was also blooming, but the edges of the falls curled up on all the flowers in bloom, which was disturbing the form. I don't know if this is typical of that variety or not. EVENING SILK (T. Aitken '90) was a very pretty dark purple self with a dark purple/black beard and ruffles. It was showing off with three open blooms.

Several of Joe Ghio's introductions were also putting on a show and looking great with many buds and blooms. They were QUITO ('93), a striking orange with an orange beard; HONEYMOON SUITE ('91), a very lacy pinkish-lavender with an orange beard; CUPID'S ARROW ('90), a beautiful pink-mulberry plicata with a bronze beard; and CHATTER ('93), an interesting mulberry and peach plicata with peach falls edged mulberry and an orange beard.

There were quite a few other tall bearded irises that I just can't leave out. AWAKENING (D. Meek '94) has pink standards with peach pink falls and a coral beard. It was a pretty combination and appeared very delicate. I saw several white TBs, but the ones that caught my eye were one by Howard Shockey called NORDIC ICE, a '93 introduction that is a large blue/white with green lines coming from a white beard and LONESOME STRANGER (R. Ernst '94) which was also a blue/white with a green area around the beard and a lavender/blue line down the falls from the beard. I especially like LION'S SHARE (M. Jameson '92) which had lemon yellow standards with lighter falls and was very ruffled. CHER (R. Nelson '91) was a beautiful, ruffled orchid/violet with a white area under the orange-red beard and another one of those irises that make you drool. DIDDLER (H. Nichols '92) was looking very good. It had four stalks blooming with nice branching and two open flowers on each stalk that had plenty of buds. It had buff standards, red/wine falls and was very lacy. ISN'T THIS SOMETHING (Ensminger '93) really WAS something different with the background color being pinkish lavender and having lots of dark mulberry splotches over the entire flower. AMERICAN GREETINGS (J. Meek '91) was a translucent white over lavender with a coral beard but appeared to have very thick substance. Joyce's RAIN MAN (Meek '94) was a nice plicata of white edged in mulberry and having brown at the hafts. Another attractive plicata was one by Jim Gibson called RUFFLED COPPER SUNSET ('93). It appeared coppery brown with an overlay of peach and a bronzy copper beard. COMING UP ROSES (Gatty '92) was a very lacy powder pink with darker falls and a small, light pink, almost white area under the melon pink beard. It was one of those irises with a color that I just can't describe, but it's absolutely lovely.

The Siberian irises were well represented and many were blooming in this garden. Two seedlings that I noticed and thought were especially nice were one hybridized by Hollingworth, number 85U2B18, a dark red/violet, with large, round falls and light blue styles and one by Anna Mae Miller, number 85-17-2 which was a creamy yellow. Those working with the Siberians are hybridizing for shorter growing ones for the border. One that was extremely ruffled and a pinkish lavender with a small white signal was STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94). I

overheard some people talking about this iris, saying that Hollingworth believed it was not a finished flower, but everyone who saw it was having fits over it, and it won the Franklin Cook Cup at the convention. DEVIL'S DREAM (Schafer-Sacks '90) was also a very pretty, ruffled wine/red with darker velvety falls, lighter red styles and a purple blaze around the signal. Dana Borglum had one blooming called LAKE KEUKA ('94) which was a lovely blue-violet with the falls edged lighter and showing aqua styles.

This garden had an excellent display of medians, many of which were Terry's introductions, but numerous ones also represented other median hybridizers. Those that I especially noticed of Terry's were ISLAND CHARM, BB ('91), a pretty lemon yellow with a yellow/orange beard; MAID OF ORANGE, ('89) BB, a smooth orange with a bright red/orange beard; MAUI SURF ('91) BB, a delicate, ruffled dark purple; TROPICAL PUNCH, BB ('94), a watermelon tan with brown and yellow tan on the falls and a red/orange beard; KONA BLUSH, BB ('90), an unusual tannish pink with lighter falls, a darker area around the russet orange beard; and DARK WATERS, IB ('92), a bitone with lavender purple standards and dark, velvety purple falls. (At least it looked that way to me.)

Other median irises I saw and liked were PEACH ICE CREAM (Lankow '93) BB, which had creamy standards, light peach falls with an orange beard, and it looked good enough to eat. CALICO CAT (C. Lankow '89) BB, a light yellow over violet with wine hafts and yellow beard was doing well in this garden. BORDER BANDIT (P. Black '89) BB was a pretty iris with buff yellow standards and lavender falls, edged brown, which looks as if it is out of BROWN LASSO. IGNITION (Stahly '89) a BB with nice, ruffled, deep violet petals with a red beard, and Hal also had an excellent BB seedling, number 90-20, which was a dark wine color of proportionate size with a deep orange beard. LENORA PEARL (H. Nichols '90), a BB that won the President's Cup in Fort Worth last year, was looking just as pretty in this garden. It is a salmon pink with an orange beard and is well proportioned. I was stunned by RED ROOSTER (J. Durrance '90), a BB that is ruffled and flared with deep red-brown of very rich color. Also looking fantastic was a BB by Keppel called PETITE BALLETT ('92), a plicata with pale blue standards, white falls banded blue and a white beard. I seem to be partial to pinks, peaches and oranges even though I try hard not to be, and I was certainly impressed by SHRIMP BOAT, a BB by Gatty in '92, with peachy standards, creamy peach falls and an orange beard. The last BB I will mention is HONKY TONK HUSSY, (D. Meek '91), a ruffled deep maroon self that I thought was very nice. I want to mention two MTBs of Ken Fisher that were blooming with very good form. They were STEFFIE ('93) with white standards and a purple blot on falls edged white, and OZARK JEWEL ('92) with yellow standards, white falls edged yellow and brown markings at the haft. It reminded me of a miniature IRMA MELROSE, which I always loved.

I couldn't possibly see all of the beautiful and well grown, healthy irises in this garden. There just wasn't enough time, and even if I had had an entire day, I would have probably missed something of value.



Dave and Nancy Silverberg

ABBHEY GARDEN

Jean Erickson (California)

Mt. Angel is a quiet community a short distance north of Salem, Oregon. There, on a hill, overlooking the area is the one hundred year old Benedictine Abbey which is famous for its immense library estimated to contain a million volumes. During October the three thousand residents are hosts to crowds estimated at three hundred thousand to four hundred thousand people who gather for the annual Octoberfest. If there is such a thing as happy chaos, this is surely it.

Just a few blocks from the main street is the home of Abbey Gardens and the Silverbergs. As we alighted from the bus, we were warmly greeted by the ebullient Dave and his wife, Nancy. I was pleased to be there.

I first noticed the neatly planted and maintained beds around the house and near the driveway. There were medians having finished bloom and a variety of perennials. In several places were nice plants of *I. tenax* literally covered with bloom. Near the front door was an attractive Pacific Coast Native hybrid of reddish-tan color with burgundy veining. There is an absence of the familiar spot on the falls as with many PCNs.

At the back of the house was a long, sloping well tended lawn ending with two free-form beds, a bench or two and some groomed pear trees. The beds contained a good variety of plant material including some conifers, peonies, Siberian and Japanese irises, hostas and other perennials. One unusual plant, a Coral Bell (heuchera) had varigated green and white foliage and small flowers on short stems.

Beyond that were the Siberian irises, and I hastened to see some real beauties. LAKE KEUKA (Borglum '94) has lovely blue flowers with pale styles. I really liked the intensity of color.

I was delighted to see SIMPLE GIFTS (Hollingsworth '94). Here is an exciting new form for Siberians with horizontally placed circular falls completely devoid of

waving and ruffling. The nearly white blooms appear to be circles floating in the landscape. I loved its difference, its simplicity. No ruffles nor blaze here.

Nearby was STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94), the winner of the Franklin Cook Cup. Seeing is believing this unusual variety and I welcome it, too, as I did SIMPLE PLEASURES for the difference in shape and form. To accurately describe the unusual color of this beauty is difficult for me to do. Dr. Hollingworth calls it "crushed strawberry" with a small white blaze. The astonishing precision of the ruffling or waving of the petal edges is decidedly different. This is a far cry in color, form and texture from the thin, pendant, graceful blooms of the "old days." It's a doozy . . . you'll be surprised.

The striking contrast between the lovely dark blue color of CORONATION ANTHEM (Hollingworth '90) with the extra large creme-to-white blaze is astonishing. It is a standout in the garden . . . a bonanza for photographers.

Dave's soon to be introduced variety, IN HER GLORY, is very floriferous with 3-4 buds and is a moderately ruffled cream-white with yellow at the throat. The rounded falls each have a small indentation at the center edge, a dimple if you will, and the styles are feathered.

There was an *I. pseudacorus* from Canada (Huber '92) which caused a stir. This had unusual semi-double blooms with a softer, less stiffly structured look than that type to which we are accustomed.

It was time to enjoy the bearded varieties. I found 88-199A (Cayeux) had large flowers with orange-apricot standards and light blue falls with red beards. I liked it.

Good substance was very evident in DIFFERENT APPROACH (Innerst '91). The standards are amber-peach with a lavender midrib. The falls are lavender-blue. It is out of, and reminiscent of, Opal Brown's DUALTONE from the late seventies. The beards are yellow tipped white, the falls edged lighter.

SUNNY BUBBLES (Maryott '93) has standards of medium to light yellow; falls are the same with slightly lighter area in the center. It is nicely ruffled and has sweet fragrance.

CRYSTAL PRISM (Silverberg '84) showed tall, good stalks bearing quality white blooms with beards touched red-orange. This is a very nice variety which has been overlooked.

For QUIET FLIRT (Rogers '94) my notes are limited to colors of the bloom. Consider this: cream—or is it creme?—standards with a touch of pink; falls the same centered with a white area and rosy-lavender color placed along the sides. I will be looking for it again.

It was inevitable I would be attracted to PRESTIGE ITEM (Hager '92). It is a lovely rose-salmon color with great branching and good form.

There were spurias, most of which were not in bloom but showing promising buds. Blooming well and demanding some attention was one bright yellow variety, ALPHASPU (Jenkins '92). It appeared non-fading and each bloom was nicely waved or fluted.

There was an interesting contrast of growth habits found in the Siberian beds which I had never had a previous chance to observe. I have never had any problem with the larger, more robust bearded irises which grow in newly planted soil which has never before been exposed to irises. They are uniformly larger, but the bloom is not distorted. From observations made here, perhaps that isn't the way for Siberian irises. There were two plants of BERNARD MCLAUGHLIN

(McEwen '85), one in the established garden and another in the bed planted especially for the convention . . . the guest bed. BERNARD MCLAUGHLIN has many attractive flowers of creamy-white color, the falls being slightly darker. The marked difference between the two was the sequence of bloom. On the plant which was part of the Silverberg's established garden there was no problem because the second terminal appeared after the first had faded, but the second terminal on the guest plant opened long before the first had faded, giving a rather cluttered effect. Is this consistent for Siberians in new soil?

There was a gathering of guests around a picnic table on the lawn. I was pleased that a fellow irisarian urged me to investigate. There I found a shallow bowl-shaped container planted with a few specimens of a rather rare *I. evansia* we had heard about at the SPCNI meeting the evening before. This was *I. tenuis* which can only be found in a 10 acre area at three thousand feet in a forest preserve in the nearby mountains. We were grateful to Claude Derr for securing several little plants for us to see. Through his association with the rangers in that area Claude is attempting to see that they are preserved. The blooms on these specimens were about 1 inch and nearly white; the standards had a faint lavender midrib with the style crests appearing to be folded over at right angles—the tips at a distinct angle to the style arms. The falls have the prominent orange spot from which the knobby little crests arise. A charming bloom.

All too soon the bus was ready to leave and I, feeling rather “put-upon,” managed to board the bus before it left without me. Some people are never satisfied.



**Jim and Vicki
Craig**

THE CRAIG GARDEN

Barbara Schmieder (Massachusetts)

Having been warned by Jim at the Median Board meeting that his garden was past peak, I made sure on day one of the tours that I got on the bus going to the Craig Garden first, hoping to see at least the tail end of his seedling bloom. I had chosen this garden to write about as I was curious to see the results of Jim and Vicki's introduction of iris aphylla into the MTB stewpot, some of the by-products being smaller IBs and BBs. While I was disappointed that their seedlings and introduced varieties had almost finished blooming, that did not affect my pleasure in seeing all the other irises in bloom. In fact, in the interest of space, I'll confine most of my remarks to the irises, even though I did actually see the pink and white columbines blooming in front of the home and noticed mature trees (just don't ask me what kind!)

The first guest iris I noted was Marky Smith's TB seedling, 90-54A, a dark black from the red side, lightly ruffled, with standards slightly lighter, self beards, with the flower a moderate size (a decided plus for those of us with small gardens). It's nice to see that Marky's discriminating taste in SDBs has carried over into her TB breeding. This iris should definitely be an introduction—it is a lovely flower, has good branching, and a good proportion of bloomstalks (5) to fans (12).

I don't want to say much about the border bearded irises as many were growing and blooming out of class (a universal fault) but that made it all the more impressive that one, CALICO CAT (Lankow '89), was growing prolifically with a mid-sized flower on a mid height stem. In all the gardens visited later, it refused to grow out of class. Its distinctive coloring—light yellow standards, light violet falls with red hafts—combined to make it a convention favorite (runner-up to the President's Cup). The same pollen parent (Miss Nellie—always in class) also produced MARGARET BEAUFORT, Lucy Burton's '94 introduction—a small, tailored orchid self on dainty stems, growing very well.

How often can you walk down a row of different irises and, without looking at the tags, name them all? Probably never (unless the row is very short!) but we value distinctiveness in irises, and this trait makes them stand out from all others. I shouldn't have been surprised when the first of three irises that *made* me come over to look at it closely was Barry Blyth's TB GALLANT ROGUE ('90)—after all, distinctiveness is practically Barry's middle name! Having seen this iris once, it was easy to spot in the other gardens from a long distance away. But an iris needs something besides distinctiveness, and this iris has it all—lilac standards, nearly black falls edged orchid, and red beards on top of a small area of white veining (honestly, I didn't make this up!) Keith Keppel is no slouch for distinctiveness either, and his STAR FLEET ('93) also did some calling out to me. I would describe it as a purple with orange beards but somewhere along the line, I never learned the subtle differences between purple, violet, orchid, lavender, lilac, mulberry, etc., so Keith probably calls it something else. Normally this color combination wouldn't appeal to me, but the smoothness of the purple somehow carries it off. The third iris that beckoned, Paul Black's GOLDKIST ('93), is a mid-sized, ruffled white with gold hafts veined magenta and gold beards—great

branching too. The big question is, where can it be bought (Paul isn't selling bearded irises this year.)?

Speaking of great branching, Jim McWhirter's BOSS TWEED ('93) should get full points. The color is nice, too—honey brown with white area under gold beards. An iris on its last bloom, NOVA AT MIDNIGHT (Boswell '89) also showed excellent branching and an appealing color pattern—dark purple standards with white midribs, dark purple falls with white zonal pattern. Then there were the two irises named for famous ladies—LADY BIRD JOHNSON (Mahan '91) and RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93). LADY BIRD JOHNSON is a nice, subtle pale blue with blue violet beards (a bearded lady?!) and RHONDA FLEMING is a solid banded (as opposed to stitched) powder-blue lilac and white plicata with great form and personality. Schreiners also had a nice plicata—CLASSIC LOOK ('92) with the same pod parent (GO AROUND) as RHONDA FLEMING, but producing a narrowly stitched edge in a bluer color. And what would a convention be without a new blue from Schreiners, this time DELTA BLUES ('94), a lavishly ruffled azure blue.

I didn't see many new pinks but did like very much Joyce Meek's FADED LOVE ('94), with pale pink standards, lavender falls, and melon beards. The subtle colors are much more attractive than the term "faded" indicates! Red bearded whites weren't too readily available either, so Keith Keppel's WHITE HEAT ('93) was a welcome find.

Just as it was time to leave for the next garden, I got a taste of what I had missed when Jim Craig showed me a last bloom on a future introduction of his, appropriately named DEPARTURE. It is a small, nicely formed white late IB (or BB?) and I'll look forward to its introduction. He and Vicki are getting some good results from their dipping into the iris aphylla gene pool—notably daintier flower size, less clubby stems, excellent branching and growth habits. How do I know this from seeing one flower? Well, I cheated—when I got back to Massachusetts, I visited Lynn Markham's garden and saw several of the new Craig irises there. Now, I'll look forward to going back to Portland for the Median Fix in '96 and hope I'll see the Craig's garden again!

American Iris Society Conventions

1995	York, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	
1997	Detroit, MI	
1998	Denver, CO	
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	

Fall Board Meetings

1994	Albuquerque, NM	November 4-6
1995	Oklahoma City, Ok	November 3-5



A view of
part of
The Schreiner
Garden

SCHREINER'S 1994

Larry Harder (Nebraska)

Our first glimpse of the Schreiner display of irises was the fields in full bloom in their multitude of colors as the irises are grown in huge blocks of each variety so the fields are a patchwork of color.

The bus went a few more miles and we were deposited at the site of the Schreiner's display garden. The Schreiner families were lined up to greet us as we came from the bus.

In a few minutes we were all off to see the flowers. A special display area had been created to show off the newest offerings in the Schreiner catalog and for the 550 guest plants they had growing in the garden.

I wanted to see what the guest plants were doing, so I headed for that area of the garden. I wish that I could report on each of the plants but will limit this to those few that I thought were really outstanding on this day that we visited.

The first iris that caught my eye was DANCING FAWN created by Francis Rogers from Wisconsin. He registered the variety in 1991, but I have not yet discovered if he has introduced it or not. DANCING FAWN is one of a new color pattern. Standards are cream with a heavy lavender infusion while the falls are a light yellow edged with a maroon plicata marking pattern. Going down the row, I found the bed held many of Keith Keppel's latest creations. First to catch my eye was RINKY DINK, his border bearded creation that was introduced last year (1993). To describe Keith's fancy plicata pattern is very difficult. Rosy standards with a deep rosy-purple plicata pattern on the falls set off by a red beard may convey what you can expect from this new BB. Since we were a bit late in the season, and since many plicatas like to bloom early, we saw a single flower on his MIND READER, his 1994 introduction, that was so favorably considered at last year's national convention in Fort Worth. This is a new luminata with rosy lavender standards with a light rim, and falls of lavender overwashed with strong violet. The white area surrounding the beard, which has red tones deep in the heart, really makes this a wonderful new contribution to the iris world. Watch for his FANCY WOMAN, a future introduction, in a similar luminata pattern. TWI-LIGHT BLAZE was blooming in good clump form. I have been intrigued with the color pattern, which appears a smoky blue violet, but the striking red beards really

set it apart. I have been very much impressed with OVERJOYED, a near yellow amoena that he is introduced for Joe Gatty. It has wonderful form and a bright color pattern. The standards show a hint of yellow tones but appear white, and the various colors of yellow in the falls make it brilliant in the garden.

I was looking at some of the Brad Kasperek introductions as he is hybridizing in the patterns of Allan Ensminger. One that I greatly admired was his TIGER HONEY (a 1994 introduction). TIGER HONEY is done in shades of brown, he says butterscotch and yellow, but the pattern is very good. He has a whole series in various colors, but I felt this was a new color combination in this type of pattern, and I liked it very much. Lots of stalks in the clump and good bud count.

LIGHTNING BOLT from the hybridizing hand of Joe Ghio (1993) was certainly different. With rosy wine standards and bluish falls with the tones of the standards on the edge set off by a brilliant red beard, it was certainly showing off favorably. And helping to set off the flowers was the edging of pansies and iceland poppies and the many lupines.

Dave Niswonger has created a series of irises with halo patterns. Here in the convention garden, I was taken with the pattern and color of HALO IN CREAM. My favorite, HALO IN YELLOW, wasn't performing at its best. The white grounds and the color describes these flowers, and all that I've grown and seen have exhibited good plant habits and bud count.

Paul Black always has some interesting new creations. This year I saw his BORN BEAUTIFUL, and I have a beautiful photograph of it with a lupine in the same shade of color found in the standards growing right next to it. Shades of violet-blue, standards lighter than falls, set off by a orange beard exhibited in beautiful flower form makes this a variety that is on my want list. Paul introduced it in 1992, so I'm sure that it is available from many gardens. It was displayed in a beautiful clump in the Schreiner display.

I much admired Steve Stevens' near black MIDNIGHT FRAGRANCE. And BRONZETTE STAR of Evelyn Kegerise was showing off well. Tim Stanek of Omaha, NE had a nice lavender blue, still under number 88-58A. And I discovered the MTB BILLIE THE BROWNIE, an unusual color in this class, created by John Burton II.

Gerald Richardson has given us several great creations. I love his AUNT LUCY, a reverse blue bitone, and I discovered another which was his seedling 77-21-1. SILK SILHOUETTE (L. Gartman 1992) was certainly showing off well, a huge clump was in bloom of this ruffled black with its shiny sheen.

A couple of Duane Meek's ruffled pinks were in bloom. IMAGINARIUM was introduced in 1993, and G9-2-8 which is a deep pink will be one to look for in the future.

In the median field, I discovered Allan Ensminger's CAN DO which was introduced in 1993 in the BB class. And a beautiful variegata called LITTLE CLOWN was released by Mary Louise Dunderman in 1993. This MTB was very striking. ENSIGN (E. Tanksley-Clarke) was a 1993 BB introduction in what one would expect from the name—navy blue.

A robust clump of the very blue CARIBEE (B. Hager 1990) showed off lots of flowers, and I noticed that it had double buds in each socket, so one could expect a long bloom season. Is the blue as blue elsewhere or is the blue shade confined to Oregon?

Several of Rick Ernst's varieties were showing well. NIGHTS OF GLADNESS (1990) was gorgeous, with the black showing well with a background of pink and white lupines. Ernst HR8545-9 a blue bitone was real showy, and HR8545-B had a strong contrast between the yellow gold standards and the bright light purple falls set off by a yellow gold beard. This was the best of this color class since the introduction of Edith Wolford.

Just starting were some of the very late varieties. One that I have been much impressed with is PRIVATE STOCK, one of the Melba Hamblen varieties that came out in 1991. Dark lavender standards over darker violet falls.

Seems like I pick out a lot of blacks. Must have been that they were performing best on this day, but DRACULA'S SHADOW of Jim Hedgecock was looking very good and very black. To contrast, was the ruffled yellow MAGIC RAIMENT from Fred Kerr, introduced in 1993.

In the Siberian bed, DANCING NANOU, Anna Mae Miller's 1983 introduction was performing its usual lovely self. This blue Siberian is always a joy to see. Several Schafer-Sacks seedlings were performing well. I noted S868-1 a tall blue with a very ruffled fall, and S87-10-1 deep rose purple with a ruffled style arm. Their dark red-violet DEVIL'S DREAM (1990) was really showing off well. We have very few varieties in this color range, and this one is very good. If you like very tiny flowered Siberians, you might like to try Gene Gaddie's 1990 introduction PRAIRIE IN BLOOM. Here in the Schreiner display garden it was performing very well. The color of the flower is oyster white. BERNARD MCLAUGHLIN, Currier McEwen's 1985 introduction, is like DANCING NANOU, a variety to be included in everyone's collection. This snowy white set off with yellow hafts is a special variety. A seedling of Currier's that I thought very good was 85-17-2 in deep purple.

L. A. Fort has a nice soft pink called PURIST'S DELIGHT. This was registered in 1990, but not yet introduced. Evelyn Jones' JB 189-11-2, a two-toned pink, looked very promising. Sterling Innerst's OMINOUS STRANGER (1993) was well branched, and his BEFORE THE STORM is the deepest tone of black, very sooty and velvety.

SLEEPWALK (Roger Nelson 1992) is a dark purple self with a fuzzy purple beard. CAVALIER'S CAPE (Lynda Miller 1992) was showing off well. And for a different color combination, I liked several of the Cayeux introductions. COLLETTE THURILLET is buff and rose pink and MARBRE BLEU has white standards, blue rimmed falls, with a red beard.

For the lovers of the pastel colors, they need to seek out J. D. Stadler's ASHLEY. Very pale cream buff standards with pink lavender falls edged buff with a pink orange beard.

Two of Jim McWhirter's varieties performing well were BELLS ARE RINGING (deep blue) and AMERICA'S CUP (white). BUSY SIGNAL (Larry Lauer 1993) was brown in color pattern. His STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN is just the opposite. One of the finest blue amoenas that we have.

Terry Aitken's varieties performing well were WINTERBOURNE (1991) white with hints of yellow on edges of falls and deeper at hafts with a yellow beard; EVENING SILK (1990) a deep blue black and MAUI MAGIC (1991 BB) in deep purple were just some of those doing well.

Doris Greenwood's last introduction, LACE LEGACY (1993), is a lacy orange confection that looks wonderful. Ken Fisher had several MTBs looking good. OZARK JEWEL, golden yellow, and PARDNER, a variegata with edge were showing well.

But the feature of any Schreiner display is some of their new things. Those that are being introduced, have been introduced, and will be introduced. Here are some that I noted.

GYPSY ROMANCE (1994), wonderful deep red-violet; FEATURE ATTRACTION (1994), that lacy blue-lavender that won the President's Cup; PAINT IT BLACK (1994) their newest black, but don't pass up HELLO DARKNESS (1992), NIGHT RULER (1990) or BLACK TIE AFFAIR (1993). In their DELTA BLUES (1994) can't be beat, but they also have JAZZ ME BLUE (1993), RIVERBOAT BLUES (1991) and CAPTAIN'S JOY (1994). I am always looking for irises in the pattern of Joyce Terry. Schreiner's has a new one they have named CHAMPAGNE WALTZ.

To go through the seedling patch with Ray Schreiner is an experience to be enjoyed. Can you imagine picking out just fifteen new introductions after having saved 300 reselecs from out of 10,000 seedlings, and doing this year after year? Here are just a few things that I saw and liked: DD573-3, dark deep maroon, CC1141-1, blue standards, maroon falls, CC812-1 yellow and white, CC855-2, lacy yellow, white area in falls, DD935-1 pink standards, green pink falls, CC852-1 yellow with white falls rimmed yellow, BB1188-1 laced white, BB1370-A light apricot standards, white falls rimmed dark apricot, red beard; CC580-A, red bitone, very dark falls; DD577-1 dark red with large yellow beard; GG338-A, very ruffled black, very wide fuzzy blue black beard; EE178-1 dark black, DD654-A wide variegata, gold standards, red falls edged gold; CC411-A deep lavender; CC1300-B pink standards, blue falls, another in this color was CC1481-1; 1987 #105 deep maroon; EE297-B red; CC139-B very ruffled medium blue; W464-1 from STORMY NIGHT X STORM CENTER a ruffled blue violet; DD753-A deep apricot rimmed pattern and CC855-1 pastel apricot in rimmed pattern; EE274-A ruffled red; and CC1334-C white standards, streaked blue falls, very different and new color pattern.

The Schreiner garden is exciting and always a pleasure to visit. It's always a great pleasure to visit with members of the family and especially so with Bob Schreiner whose knowledge of irises and iris people is fantastic. The fields, the display area, the seedling beds, the packing shed with its show of the varieties in bloom from the fields, the display of art with irises a predominating factor, plus the friendly Schreiner family members, make a trip to this garden worth savoring for a long while. Memorable as this visit was, I can't wait until I can do it again. When did they say that the next convention was going to be held in Oregon?!!



SCHREINERS' GARDEN

Audrey Machulak (Wisconsin)

It appeared that some majestic power had covered the area with a brilliantly colored patchwork quilt, and the patchwork made up of irises was Schreiner's gardens. Our busload of conventioners was greeted by a receiving line of the entire Schreiner clan, and then it was off to see the irises. With pad and pencil in hand, I tried to take notes on Schreiner's guest beds for the AIS Bulletin, but I found it very difficult not to be distracted by the many irises growing to the horizon.

At the guest beds, the first iris to welcome me was Schreiner's CHAMPAGNE WALTZ. This '94 introduction sported a bright tangerine beard on ruffled, soft, creamy white standards and falls highlighted by a narrow band of yellow-peach. Nine buds, several triple sockets, and four flowers in bloom completed this picture.

A little early in the day for formals but Schreiner's BLACK TIE AFFAIR would be the way to go. This '93 introduction had ten buds, plus the inky black flowers that were opened at the time. The velvety texture of the falls and the black beard made this an affair to remember.

My four stars went to FEATURE ATTRACTION, a '94 Schreiner introduction. Talk about lace, frills, and form . . . this lady had it! The cool lavender flowers easily measured six inches across. Signal spots on the falls and white beards were the final cosmetics for this very lovely lady.

MULBERRY PUNCH was introduced by Schreiners in '92. There were lots of ruffles on these cerise purple flowers and eight buds on the stalk. The unusual blue-purple beards added the punch, but the slight yellowing of the foliage somewhat detracted from the overall picture. Another variety also introduced in '92 was COTE D'OR, a ruffled intense yellow with an orange beard. This plant had a few yellowing problems too. Time did not allow questioning the matter, but I am sure this was not typical of these varieties.

What name will Rick Ernst choose for his seedling #G 102-1? This well grown plant had seven buds on a stalk, but the smoky standards and slightly ruffled, green-yellow falls created a rather mysterious look.

The late Melba Hamblen's PRIVATE STOCK '89 was another blending of colors. The standards were a shiny oyster infused with a light purple that deepened at the hafts. The falls of pale violet lightened toward the center, and a brown beard lay on top.

An Arilbred seedling of Susiehy Kammer SK-1 caught my eye because of the unusual beard. The dusty ivory standards and falls with a slight touch of violet around the brown fuzzy beard was a very attractive combination enhanced by a bud count of eight.

The dreams of every hybridizer are seedlings with, among other things, a good bud count. STOLEN DREAMS, Hager '90, fits the requirement with lots and lots of buds and lace. The standards were deep orchid, the falls white, and the beard tangerine.

TRIPLE WHAMMY, Hager '89, a tall iris, displayed standards of bright yellow and falls of lavender and white with a wide yellow edge. The bright purple beard and horns made this a real winner.

If pink irises are your thing, watch seedling #G9-2-8 by Duane Meek. The intense pink color and the eight well spaced buds will surely be a hit in the near future. But, if you are looking for a good black try Gartman's '89 introduction of SILK SILHOUETTE. This heavily ruffled almost black iris with a deep blue beard will surely stand out any place in your garden.

Keith Keppel's selections for new introductions are always notable, and RINKY DINK '93 a border iris, is one example. The unusual color combination of blond, pale grayed orchid, purple, with a red beard makes this a great colorful plic! SOCIAL EVENT '90, is more subdued—buff peach with a red beard, and OVERJOYED, Gatty '94, with standards of white and falls of lemon yellow plus ruffles. This iris had great branching and bud count. Another example of color blending mixes honeydew, buff and purple. Add ruffles and you have CHEATING HEART, a '94 introduction.

Moving down the guest bed, we came to VENUS AT TWILIGHT, Boswell '91, a well rounded blue violet with a white star under the violet beard and WENCH, L. Miller '91, a lovely blend of pink standards and falls of plum with very attractive pink lines around a tangerine beard. Another Miller introduction, SUN'S UP '92, a border iris had a great stalk of yellow blooms.

One couldn't miss the clump of FIREBREATHER, Schreiner's '92. If this one had any faults, they could easily be overlooked because of the intensity of the flower's orange color.

Something new and special to add to a plic collection would be GRAPHIQUE, M. Dunn '94. Standards are white with a wide band of deep violet, and the falls white with a narrow edge of deep violet. Note, there is no center stripe. A matching beard, ruffling and excellent branching are added for good measure. SCOTCH, another of M. Dunn's carefully selected introductions was a perky, ruffled, golden yellow with matching beard, attractive markings and a good bud count.

After seeing many colors, combinations, and blends, a pure white iris comes along as a bit of relief. AMERICA'S CUP, McWhirther '89, is that clean white iris with beards to match. And how about a brown iris you say! Larry Lauer aims to please with BUSY SIGNAL '92. The standards are brown and falls are darker brown, with gold plicata markings and ruffles.

Several more blacks worth mentioning are NIGHT FLAME, Aitken '92, a lovely glossy red-black with black beards and HELLO DARKNESS, Schreiner's '92, a ruffled purple-black self and black beards. The heavy velvet substance was irresistible. I had to touch!

Just when you think you have seen it all, another distinguished variety appears, GYPSY ROMANCE, Schreiner's '94. The blue-purple beard combined with the violet standards and ruffled falls was an eye-catcher.

Three introductions by Chet Tompkins should be mentioned. REVIVAL MEETING '90 with standards a mixture of lilac, pink and cream, and falls of deeper lavender with pink overtones. A beard of ruby and brown blended with blue complete the mixture. SHEER BLISS, '87 is a more subdued cornflower blue and PUNCH '89, a border bearded iris with standards of ivory and falls of red set off by a blue beard.

Tall bearded irises are the most popular variety at a convention, but the beardless varieties are frosting on the cake. This garden was no exception in its display of Siberians, Spurias, and Louisianas. The Schreiner gardens specialize in tall bearded irises, but the beardless were very well represented.

RAPPORT, M. Dunn '92, was well grown, vigorous and just beginning to bloom. Bloom stalks were many on this Louisiana. The flowers were a delightful blue with a soft green signal. Another introduction of Dunn's, C'EST FANTASTIQUE '91, was about to put on a lovely display of burgundy. The small yellow signal was the finishing touch. Given a day or two more, this would have been an enormous mass of color.

VICKI ANN, Warburton '89, provided a sample of how appealing Siberian irises can be. A conventioneer commented "This plant looks like it's all together—a sea of blue!" Another attractive Siberian, ROARING JELLY, Schafer-Sacks '92 was quite a combination of colors. The standards were a smoky lavender with veining, the falls a maroon blending and a white signal. In addition Currier McEwen's BABY SISTER, '86, was doing very well here, a pleasing blue violet with a white signal.

A Spuria #82-6C by Desantis was also getting attention. Very well grown, with many bloom stalks, this plant will be worth watching for the future.

The guest beds were filled with well grown specimens. By alternating poppies and pansies on their edges, each bed was given that finished look. Spent blooms and weary plants that had bloomed weeks earlier were now cleverly covered by large lupines. It was indeed my pleasure to be a visitor to Schreiner's Gardens.

**Tom and
Ellen
Abrego**



CHEHALEM GARDEN

Carol Warner (Maryland)

The home of Tom and Ellen Abrego is located on 26 acres in the Red Hills of Dundee, the heart of Oregon's wine country. Magnificent views in all directions could have made it difficult to concentrate on the garden, but **WHAT A GARDEN!!!** This was the first stop on my three days of tours, and as I began to make notes I knew why we had been provided with a very thick pad of paper in our registration packet. Clarence Mahan told me I could only use the word "gorgeous" three times in my write-up for this garden; with that limitation there is no way to do justice to this place.

A mass planting of **KING OF KINGS**, **TEMPER TANTRUM**, and **JAYBIRD** in front of a fence led me around the outside of the personal landscape gardens in front of the house. How can the Siberians grow three or four feet tall? Then I looked down the long row of guest clumps of Siberians and realized they all were grown to that height. The list of clumps that particularly merited writing down in my notes covered two sides of a page of paper. Some of the most outstanding were: **VICKIE ANN**, a wonderful light blue from Warburton; **ROSEBUD MELODY**; **BRIDAL JIG**, a very creamy yellow; **LIBERTY HILLS**; **ROARING JELLY**; **SHIRLEY'S CHOICE**; **FROSTED CRANBERRY**; **REGENCY BUCK**, grown with huge dark navy blue flowers; **MARSHMALLOW FROSTING**; **ALL IN STIPPLE**; **PERCHERON**; **DEAR DIANNE**; **BEDFORD LASS**; **HARPSWELL SNOWBURST**; **GOLDEN EDGE**; **SHALL WE DANCE**; **HARPSWELL VELVET**; **SWEET SURRENDER**; **SAILOR'S FANCY** and **LANG**. This was my first introduction to a new Siberian, **LAKE KEUKA**, by Dana Borglum. The growth habit of the plant, branching and flower form made many of us stop and just discuss the merits of this new variety. The clean blue color was so impressive here and in the other gardens that this became the second runner-up for the Franklin Cook Cup. A navy blue seedling from Schafer-Sacks, **S 86-8-1**, was at least 48 inches tall and was very well branched.

Spuria, especially **ALPHASPU** and **BRONZE ART**, Louisiana and many other beardless irises were thriving. The Sino-Siberians (40 chromosomes) **FORETELL**, **IDSON**, and **ENBEE DEEAYCH** were just beginning to bloom. **PACIFIC**

STARPRINT, PACIFIC SMOOTHIE, and IN STITCHES, all Cal-Sibes from Lorena Reid were very interesting to see. The versicolor hybrids, WHODUNIT, MYSTERIOUS MONIQUE and GERALD DARBY with its purple stalks and purple-based foliage were magnificent specimens. Species irises such as *I. chrysographes* and *I. forrestii* were certainly an unusual and welcome sight in a convention garden.

The landscaped beds in front of Ellen and Tom's home were simply magnificent. The use of foliage plants and color combinations using shades of red and deep pink as a foundation planting created so much interest. Plantings of blood-grass, bergenia and perennial geraniums caught my eye. Hosta, rhododendron and a large planting of *Rogersia* near the arbor led the visitor down another path. Other gorgeous perennials included, *Astrantia* 'Rosea Major', *Aconitum*, *Pulmonaria*, lupine, lavender, *Veronica*, coralbell, *geum*, *Helianthemum*, *Dianthus simulans*, *Dryas*, *Gypsophila repens rosea*, *Erodium cysantha*, peonies and *Geranium* "Johnson's Blue." Specimen trees included a Ginkgo, *Cedrus deodara* and a white pine. An alpine type garden called a "scree garden" made by mounding nine inches of sand and then rock displayed a fascinating array of miniature plants. Tom said it was also one of the easiest gardens to maintain because of the ease of weeding.

A lovely statue of a mermaid carved out of gray Bardiglio marble sitting on a granite pedestal stood in an open area between the landscaped gardens and the commercial and guest display areas. Her tail wrapped around to form a basin to catch water.

Shrub roses and old fashioned roses are also a major interest in the garden. The blooms, some of which rebloom, and especially the fragrance which drifted over the entire garden added a delightful feeling to the entirety.

Chehalem Gardens can only be described as "Gorgeous," and it is truly a Siberian Heaven.

**Tom Abrego and
Rayne Post**





The Plotner's in their convention tour garden.

THE PLOTNER GARDEN

Dolores Denney (Kansas)

Chugging along the beautiful, gentle hills and meadows on Dickey Prairie Road in Molalla, Oregon, our bus came around a bend and there, smack-dab by the side of the road was Wil and Tracy Plotner's little bit of heaven, Wildwood Gardens. They greeted us at the bus with smiles and free catalogues. It seemed to me that we couldn't have been at this garden more than twenty minutes, but my husband tells me it was more like an hour. I had barely gotten through the Plotner's own introductions when the first call to get back on the bus came, so my report will be sketchy at best. I apologize to the hybridizers of many beautiful things.

The front part of the garden was filled with Plotner's own introductions and Wil's things had buds and branches in spades. For instance, **BOLD LOGIC** (Plotner '88), standing sentinel by the mailbox at the entrance to the garden with oxblood red standards and maroon black falls decorated with gold beards and some gold in the hafts showing through. Its nine budded 38 inch stalks mirrored the warm leaf hue of the purple leafed plum behind it making an imposing color statement.

MELODY MAKER (Plotner '87) also greeted us at the entrance. Tall with cream standards and yellow shading up the midribs, ruffled style falls which were white with deeper yellow haft borders, undersides and edges. I counted ten buds on one stalk—eleven on another—four open. Not a perfect flower, with falls a bit long and a touch tucked, but it made up for it by blooming its head off. Quite a show.

An amazing **Star Trek** rose in a deep coral orange stopped me in my tracks. You can't grow roses anywhere like they grow them in Oregon, and this one was exceptional at a good seven feet tall. But onward . . .

CHANGELING (Plotner '92) smooth and subtle colors had changed from Indian tan standards bordered with wisteria violet and wisteria violet falls bordered with amber to softest golden tan standards and light lilac falls banded with tan. One of those that fades in a pleasing manner. Good name.

DEEP EMOTIONS (Plotner '86) A colorful blend of lavender-violet (orchid) standards and fall edges and fuchsia falls with a lavender line down the center from the yellow beard. Copper and wine hafts enhance the picture. Form and bud count were not the best here, but exciting colors were notable.

DEVIL'S DAWN (Plotner '91) Another good name! Nicely branched brown red with 11 buds and good color saturation. Gold and brown beards give them a mustard effect.

NEVADA SMOKE (Plotner '88) This one has grayed lavender standards and lilac falls edged with grayed lavender. It is yellow in the hafts with white-tipped orange beards. It appeared to prefer some afternoon shade. The plant in the sun has six buds, but another in the shade had eight. Or maybe it just lucked into a little more manure.

NIGHT THIEF (Plotner '91) Branching galore with (count them) 15 buds. Rather plain but pleasant bright purple flower with darker purple beard. This should give a long season of color. The only other iris I know that will throw more buds is LION'S SHARE (Jameson '92) the super-ruffled cream that's been getting so many kudos around the Midwest.

At this point in my iris viewing came the first call to get on the buses and I wasn't even through with Plotner's things, but I rushed on trying to get descriptions of other guests. So, the following is how you describe things when in a semi-hysterical hurry! Here is what I wrote . . .

A beautiful stalk of ROSETTE WINE (Schreiner's '89) was giving its last goodbye with four open blooms. What a honey of an iris! Do I really need to describe it? One of my favorites (and everybody else's I'd guess).

RUFFLED GODDESS (Tasco '93) Orchid—my favorite iris color—with lovely form and yellow beard and three open buds.

ERNST SDLG/no102-4-20—A deep rich red, nicely branched and with great depth of color.

FROSTICO (Gartman '92) Yummy laced, soft, creamy, brass yellow standards and fall edges on cream falls with tangerine beards. Only five buds but two stalks per rhizome. Delicious!

SILK SILHOUETTE (Gartman '92) The clump was a big froth of bright purple ruffles. So many open I couldn't find the branches or count buds, what with the whistle blowing furiously for me to get on the bus! Too many open at once? How long will it last? No time to find out.

PINK STARLET (Wood '93) Lacy, well branched pink. Love his pinks. Must run . . .

BLENHEIM ROYAL (Schreiner '90) Talk about branching! How about eight open but with 13 plus buds. Maybe it will stick around a while. Nice in many gardens. Yes, royal blue.

OREGON SKIES (Schreiner '91) Another lovely Schreiner blue. Usual great qualities.

YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner '92) Sumptuous. How does one decide which of Schreiner's blues to get? All of them I guess!

FOR PATSY LOU (Burseen '93) Really different. Brassy gold standards, deep maroon falls with a 1/4 inch band of orchid. My, oh my, and a beautifully branched stalk—up to ten buds—not ruffled, but enough happening already.

STAR SAILOR (Schreiner) Right light blue. Nuff said. (I was almost running through the garden).

BE A DREAM (Niswonger '92) Smallish flowers held well above the foliage. Cream dripping butter over the hafts and bright gold beard. Nice bud placement—ten of them. It sings!

My husband, Alan, had now arrived to fetch me so a fast glance at what was left of the MTBs was all I could manage. Three caught my eye . . .

WYSS 8945-1—Cheery yellow with gold beards.

(Now they're yelling at me . . .)

REMINISCENCE (Mahan '92) Orchid standards over red-purple falls with a yellow beard.

PRETTY QUIRKY (Probst '92) Lemon standards, cream falls delicately striped purple.

And then I was on the bus—sans cigarette, sans lemonade, and breathless—having missed over half the garden and not even saying goodbye to the Plotners. My husband and Jim Waddick tell me the backyard was gorgeous, with a sensational rose and huge hostas in a lovely wooded area. Well, as is written on Carrie Nation's tombstone, "She did what she could."

It was a little past peak bloom time at the convention, which I appreciated as I am always looking for late varieties to extend the season—and also for the long season bloomers which are still blooming away long after their less well-branched companions have folded up shop. It also gave conventioners a look at early Siberians, Louisianas, beardless species, and even a few late PCNs.

It was a beautiful and wonderfully organized convention. How 1,200 people were accommodated without long waits and bungled schedules was a tribute to the convention committee. Good food, good company, good weather, good bloom. What more could one ask? Congratulations Terry Aitken and all the hardworking people in Region 13. We loved every minute of a truly memorable convention.

**Duane and
Joyce Meek**



D AND J GARDEN

Phil Williams (Tennessee)

To all who know Joyce and Duane Meek, they remain a very special couple with unwavering dedication to and a passion for irises. The consistent growth of plants here in the guest beds, seedling rows and commercial stock areas was without equal in Oregon. The plants were exceptionally well grown, the bloom was stupendous and it was virtually impossible to find a blade of grass or an emerging weed. What gardeners they are! Retirement from the city lot in Concord, California, to this working farm speaks volumes of their love of the soil. Perennial beds, Japanese maples, acres of named varieties and seedlings, beardless irises of every type—talk about sensory overload!

A pre-tour visit gave me time to fully digest the vastness of this garden and to more fully appreciate the financial and physical commitment to make this farm-sized iris garden a reality.

Among the notable tall beardeds—SWEET REVENGE (Duane Meek '92) is best described as a large, billowy pink with just about everything you'd want in a fine garden iris.

Two of Rick Ernst's creations were looking quite good. RAINBOW GODDESS ('94) is gorgeous with plum standards, peachy yellow falls, ruffles galore, and superb branching. WINNER TAKE ALL ('93) is a nice icy white with VERY faint blue plicating.

FROSTING (Gatty '93) is pale lilac with lots of pink blending. Very fine! STAR FLEET (Keppel '93) is a very ruffled dark mulberry with blue in the falls and brown on the hafts.

Three of Tom Burseen's creations were making quite an impression. FASHION PASSION ('93) is a red amoena with lavender pink rims on the falls. SEARIOUS SITUATION ('93) is bright golden yellow with petal edges that are "seared" with red brown. SPICY MATE (not introduced) is a most unusual plicata, and I liked it. Look for it!

A real treat for any serious iris judge is walking through the seedling rows. It was in the midst of this acreage that I spotted a wonderful orange seedling, and we took two photographs of it. I was really taken by it! Duane's seedling #92-1-0 is a very ruffled marbled and veined lavender with much paler falls and orange beards. Gorgeous! His #91-2-0 is one of many exciting seedlings that incorporate George Shoop lines. It has grey-mauve standards, buff falls with darker hafts, and orange beards. (10 buds, 4 branches, husky and vigorous).

Joyce and Duane also have many of Melba Hamblen's seedlings on display. I fell for H-85-028. The mauve standards have wine flecking; falls are light mustard with henna beards. Unbelievably great plants, 3 branches and spur, with 10 buds!

FADED LOVE (Joyce Meek '94) was great at home as well as at the Craig Garden. Pink standards, soft lavender falls, soft orange beards, 4 branches, 2 spurs, 10 buds, and great plants.

Francis Rogers' JOYCE DIANE ('92) is as good as any pink amoena we have grown. A hardy plant, 2 branches, 2 spurs and 7 buds.

Conventions are always a time of meeting the "tired and famous," and at the Meek's house guest Opal Brown was the centerpiece of social excitement. What a wonderful, warm, happy, enthusiastic, and dedicated irisarian Opal is! Her hybridizing achievements in the world of irises are legend.

It was one immaculate iris garden with loads of bloom, hosted by the nicest of couples. D & J Gardens was "unforgettable in every way." Thank you, Joyce and Duane, for being such wonderful friends and sharing your lovely place with us.



Barry Blyth (Australia), Duane Meek, and Julie Allen (Tennessee) with a portion of D. and J. Garden in the background.



L. to R.: John, Briana, Kay, John, Wava, and Bob—The Ludis.

THE LUDI GARDEN

Roger P. Mazur (Nebraska)

After lunch in a wooded park, we departed for the Ludi Garden. A short ten minute ride and we were delivered to the sixty-acre cattle ranch in Sandy, at the foot of Mount Hood. The haze obscured the view of the mountain, but the sun shone brightly in the valley where the buses snaked along the road and into the driveway of Mountain View Iris Gardens. From the bus's window, we could see the gently rolling hills backed by stands of evergreens. When the buses stopped, the record breaking horde of attendees descended on the garden where the chaos began.

The garden fills two and one-half acres between the house and the road. The guest irises were in beds closest to the road, affording the conventioners easy access. All classes of bearded irises, Siberian, spuria, Louisianas, Japanese and native species shared their allotted space with roses, peonies, daylilies and other perennials. Tall bearded iris peak in Nebraska is three weeks prior to the onset of roses, but here in Oregon, the time overlaps and many roses were blooming alongside the irises. To accommodate Wava Ludi's love of climbing roses, latticed archways, built by husband John, were placed throughout the guest and Siberian iris beds. The blooms on these climbers were as large as hybrid teas and very fragrant, even their color seemed intensified. Also strategically placed throughout the beds was old farm machinery, rusted with age, standing tall much like classic marble statues in a formal Italian garden.

Almost hidden between vigorous growing foliage, appearing like miniature Arlington National Cemetery, were tiny white crosses which marked all the guest plants that did not make it—proving that even in this world renowned area, all irises do not survive.

The beds were well tended and very clean and grown as well as possible. Very little leaf spot was visible, which was not the case in all display gardens. Two beds of Siberian irises caught everyone's eye because they were grown in large clumps. The ever popular WHITE SWIRL was strutting its stuff in multiple clumps as was EGO with its bright sky blue color. In full bloom was the striking clump of the magenta pink LADY VANESSA (Hollingworth). Several other clumps that attracted the visitors were SHIRLEY POPE, REPRISE, YANKEE COUNCIL, TEMPER TANTRUM, and a vigorous clump of DANCE BALLERINA DANCE.

Those irisarians who walked down the road about 100 feet were rewarded by iris tenax growing naturally in the ditch by the side of the road. It seemed at home even though it was crowded by grasses. It showed the typical lilac with flaring falls with yellow signal with darker purple striations through the signal. Missed by many because of its size, situation and delicate color, but a pleasant surprise for those who took the trouble.

However, the stars of the garden were the tall bearded, and IN PERSON (Hager '91) was one that drew much attention. It is perhaps one of the most overlooked but best pale pinks in commerce. It may be the pale color that makes some people pass it by, but its wide form with overlapping hafts, super ruffles on all petals and the strong stems supporting a minimum of eight buds should ride the wave to higher awards. In contrast to the pale hues stood ROBE OF ROYALTY (Hedgecock '91), a tall royal purple with nice branching and gentle ruffling but with only one bud per socket. ROYAL INTRIGUE (Schreiner '91) displayed a mass of deep violet flowers on a two-year clump. The nine buds promised that it would be in bloom a long time. Also in dark blackish purple, PERFECT PITCH (Gatty '92) showed its good ruffled form on a shorter stalk. However, the black to purple iris to look for is seedling AA401A (Schreiners). This one photographs as a true black with ruffles. Ruffles have always eluded the blacks, but the Schreiner line that began with NIGHT RULER has reached a peak of ruffling with this seedling. This is not the only attribute, moreover, it also has 12, yes count them, buds on one stalk, though this may not be typical. Nearby, NIGHT RULER was doing its best to keep up.



Iris tenax by the road at Ludi's



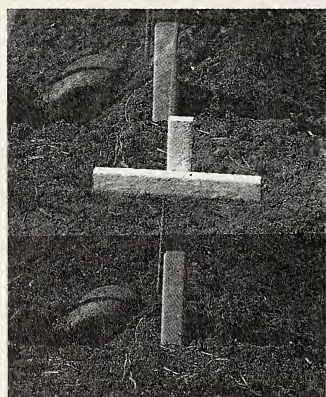
The Ludi Garden sign

An icy white-blue seedling, RN 86-37BC (R. Nelson), was showing its perfect branching and bud placement, a typical Roger Nelson trait. The flowers were large with great substance and the stalk supported seven buds. In the same color range was the older, but classically great, TINTED CRYSTAL (Hager '88) with its ruffled semi-flaring form. SKYLIFT (Browne '93) was another pale blue with great branching and ruffled flaring form. It opened three flowers on each stalk and had seven buds. An iris I had only seen in pictures, RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93), was quite a surprise. The form was much better than the picture shown in the *Bulletin*. The stalks displayed the wide flowers in show style branching, and the plic markings were only on the petal edges leaving the white ground clean and free of any marks. CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiners '92) was performing well as a darker version of RHONDA FLEMING with a slight upturn at the petal edges.

Another iris I had not seen before, but which was certainly one of the most vigorous growers, was ALIZES (Cayex '92). With white standards and blue falls fading to white around the tangerine beard, this one was an instant clump that drew much attention. But the standout in blue bitones had to be PROUD TRADITION (Schreiners '90). This iris had by far the most intense blue coloration, without a touch of purple sneaking in to invade the purity. It performed just as well in Texas last year as it did here in its home area. Another Schreiner iris that called attention to itself was the brilliantly colored ORANGE JUBILEE, a '93 introduction that has finally brought height and bud count to the orange class. Prior bright orange introductions tended to be border size, but this one had tall bearded stature.

Other irises that performed well were LACE ARTISTRY (Aitken '88) nice pink but flowers were displayed too close to the stalk; SPELLMAKER (Schreiner '91) metallic magenta with large flowers and good stalks; FORGE FIRE (Ernst '91) a deep smoldering brown-red; and BLENHEIM ROYAL (Schreiner '90) deep blue with carrying power that bloomed well in this and all the guest beds in the Portland area.

All too soon we had to leave. Unfortunately, because of the copious note-taking, I did not have time to view the rest of the garden. We have to thank the Ludis for their many efforts that helped make the Portland convention such a success and in making us feel so welcomed.



**An indication of plants
that didn't survive in
the Ludi Garden**



**1994
MEDAL
WINNERS**

**KNOWLTON MEDAL
ZINGER**



**SASS MEDAL
ASK ALMA**



**DEBAILLON
MEDAL
JERI**

**1994
MEDAL
WINNERS**

**MORGAN-WOOD
MEDAL**

SULTAN'S RUBY



**MITCHELL
MEDAL**

**DRIVE YOU
WILD**



**MITCHELL
MEDAL**

SIMPLY WILD





**1994
MEDAL
WINNERS**

**WILLIAMSON-WHITE
MEDAL**

ROSEMARY'S DREAM



**CAPARNE-WELCH
MEDAL**

FUNNY FACE



**COOK-DOUGLAS
MEDAL**

ORANGE TIGER

**1994
MEDAL
WINNERS**

**C. G. WHITE MEDAL
KHYBER PASS**

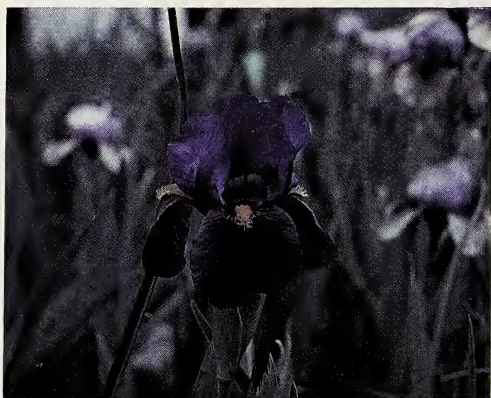


**NIES MEDAL
SON OF SUN**



**WILLIAM MOHR
MEDAL**

OMAR'S TORCH



WISTER MEDAL WINNER

HONKY TONK BLUES



Display beds at Schreiner's Garden featured multitudes of iris blooms with companion plants for the 1994 convention.



“An irisarian’s dream” best describes the acres and acres of irises at Cooley’s in the above picture. Below, the Aitken Garden is a beautiful sight for convention visitors to Rainbow’s End.





Siberian irises put on a show near rose-covered trellis at Ludi's Garden. Vying with the irises for attention at the Abrego Garden was the incredible view of the valley.





Late season in the Craig Garden was still a sea of beautiful irises. Dave Niswonger and Rick Ernst discuss some of the seedlings in the huge planting at Cooley's Garden.



1994 AIS AWARDS

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

SILVERADO TB (SCHREINERS) 211 votes

(runners-up)

BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (J. & G. Norrick) 49 votes

BATIK (A. Ensminger) 46 votes

votes

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB)

88 HONKY TONK BLUES
(Schreiniers)

runners-up

74 Champagne Elegance
(D. Niswonger)
47 Orange Slices (D. Niswonger)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

106 ZINGER (S. Stevens)

runners-up

91 Brownberry (A. & D. Willott)
73 Berry Rich (A. Ensminger)

HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

100 ASK ALMA (C. Lankow)

runnersup

79 Sunshine Boy (F. Foster)
72 Morning Show (A. Ensminger)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

83 ORANGE TIGER (B. Jones)

runners-up

61 People Pleaser (A. Ensminger)
60 Plum Wine (J. Weiler)

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL (MDB)

47 FUNNY FACE (M. Brizendine)

runners-up

37 Snowy River (A. & D. Willott)
36 Little Green Eyes (C. Boswell)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

84 SULTAN'S RUBY
(R. Hollingworth)

runnersup

79 Aqua Whispers (A. M. Miller)
73 Temper Tantrum
(W. McGarvey)

MARY SWORDS DEBAILLON MEDAL (LA)

42 JERI (N. Bertinot)

runners-up

41 Mississippi Gambler (M. Dunn)
39 Kay Nelson (M. Granger)

WILLIAMSON - WHITE MEDAL (MTB)

127 ROSEMARY'S DREAM
(M. Dunderman)

runners up

89 Aachen Elf (L. Kennedy)
83 Welch's Reward (W. Welch by
E. Hall)

C. G. WHITE MEDAL (AR) (½ or more Aril)

57 KHYBER PASS (K. Kidd)

runners-up

45 Dee Mouse (H. Danielson)
37 Pro News (H. Danielson)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL (AB) (½ - ¼ Aril)

61 OMAR'S TORCH (C. Boswell)

runners-up

36 Green-Eyed Sheba (C. Boswell)
30 Humohr (B. Hager)
30 Sultan's Jewelry (B. Hager)

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU)

83 SON OF SUN
(F. Wickenkamp)

runners-up

44 Cinnamon Stick (D. Niswonger)
36 Highline Coral (E. McCown)

**SIDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL
(CA)**

22 DRIVE YOU WILD (J. Ghio)
22 SIMPLY WILD (J. Ghio)

runners-up

20 California Mystique (J. Ghio)
17 Big Money (J. Ghio)

J. A. PAYNE MEDAL (JA)

Due to extended deadline for voting, results
will be reported in a later AIS *Bulletin*.

WALTHER CUP—Most HM votes—all categories

199 HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiners)

runners-up

157 Coming Up Roses (J. Gatty)
122 After The Storm (S. Innerst)
122 Yaquina Blue (Schreiners)

Award of Merit

TALL BEARDED

votes

140 CONJURATION (M. Byers)
138 NIGHT RULER (Schreiners)
111 ACOMA (T. Magee)
108 BLENHEIM ROYAL
(Schreiners)
99 RAPTURE IN BLUE
(Schreiners)
98 SWEETER THAN WINE
(Schreiners)
96 PURE-AS-THE (S. Innerst)
88 DESIGNING WOMAN
(J. Gatty)
87 INSTRUCTOR (S. Innerst)
83 OKLAHOMA CRUDE
(P. Black)
81 PROUD TRADITION
(Schreiners)
80 ROLE MODEL (D. Denney)
77 BLUE CHIP PINK
(O. D. Niswonger)

runners-up

75 FANFARON (B. Hager)
75 LARRY GAULTER (B. Brown)
75 SIGHS & WHISPERS
(P. Black)

BORDER BEARDED

136 MAUI SURF (J. T. Aitken)
135 LENORA PEARL (H. Nichols)
112 FAUX PAS (K. Keppel)
92 MAID OF ORANGE
(J. T. Aitken)

runners-up

78 RED ROOSTER (J. Durrance)
71 RUBY WILSON (D. Denney)
56 FRIZZY LIZZY (J. Weiler)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

110 JOHN (A. Ensminger)
86 LEMON POP (L. Lauer)
70 LO HO SILVER (M. Byers)
64 CALIFORNIA STYLE
(B. Jones)
62 HELGA'S HAT (H. Nichols)
61 BROADWAY BABY (J. Gatty)

runners-up

55 NECTAR (K. Keppel)
54 TRIPLET (K. Keppel)
45 PIECE OF CAKE (B. Hager)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

- 89 PUMPIN IRON (P. Black)
- 79 CIMARRON ROSE
(H. Nichols)
- 77 WELL SUITED (P. Black)
- 71 KIWI SLICES
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 66 LITTLE SHOWOFF (E. Hall)
- 58 SMELL THE ROSES
(M. Byers)
- 57 CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE
(R. Jeffries)

runners-up

- 51 SASS WITH CLASS (P. Black)
- 49 OREGOLD (B. Jones)
- 48 COURT MAGICIAN
(H. Nichols)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 80 CINNAMON APPLES
(P. Black)
- 49 STRAWBERRY CREAM
(J. Boushay)
- 43 SNUGGLES (L. Miller)

runners-up

- 37 PIXIE FLIRT (A. & D. Willott)
- 33 ELFIN MAGIC
(A. & D. Willott)
- 32 DAISY FRESH
(A. & D. Willott)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 62 STRIPED PANTS (K. Fisher)
- 58 PETITE MONET (K. Steele)
- 47 CHERRY (M. Dunderman)
- 44 ZULA (K. Fisher)

runners-up

- 42 OZARK SKY (K. Fisher)
- 38 PAY OFF (J. & V. Craig)
- 30 JOLLY JIM (M. Dunderman)

SIBERIAN

- 152 SHAKER'S PRAYER
(C. Warner)
- 99 CORONATION ANTHEM
(R. Hollingworth)

- 74 WINDWOOD SERENADE
(R. Hollingworth)
- 72 PAS-DE-DEUX
(R. Hollingworth)

runners-up

- 48 CONTRAST IN STYLES
(R. Hollingworth)
- 42 WHITE TRIANGLES
(B. Warburton)
- 38 REGENCY BELLE
(C. McEwen)

LOUISIANA

- 60 C'EST BONNE (M. Dunn)
- 49 ASHLEY MICHELLE
(J. Mertzweiller)

runners-up

- 44 WAVERLY PINK
(E. Lineberger)
- 41 PROFESSOR SIGMOND
(J. Mertzweiller)
- 39 DELTA BELLE (M. Dunn)

SPURIA

- 42 MISSOURI RIVERS
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 28 SONORAN SENORITA
(F. Wickenkamp)
- 24 IN DEPTH (B. Hager)
- 21 KITT PEAK (F. Wickenkamp)

runners-up

- 20 CANDLE LACE
(B. C. Jenkins)
- 19 BELISSINADO (G. Corlew)
- 19 SONORAN CABALLERO
(F. Wickenkamp)
- 19 SULTAN'S SASH
(O. D. Niswonger)

ARILBRED (1/4 to 1/2 aril)

- 50 OMAR THE TENTMAKER
(C. Boswell)
- 24 ALL THE WAY (H. Danielson)
- 20 BOZRAH (F. Gadd)
- 20 PRAIRIE THUNDER (P. Black)

runners-up

- 18 APRIL FRESH (M. Brizendine)
- 17 HOT SPOT (C. Boswell)
- 15 SPLASH DANCE (D. Shepard)

ARILBRED (1/2 or more aril)

- 33 KALIFA'S ROBE (B. Hager)
- 25 PINK BETTERMENT
(L. Peterson)
- 21 LAVENDER LEMON
(L. Danielson)

runners up

- 17 BIONIC FLASH (H. Danielson)
- 16 ZERZURA (B. Hager)

15 BIONIC COMET

(H. Danielson)

15 BRONZE FALCON

(L. Danielson)

CALIFORNICAE

33 IDYLWILD (J. Ghio)

24 SMUGGLER'S COVE

(V. Wood)

runners-up

22 IN THE MONEY (J. Ghio)

20 NIGHT EDITOR (J. Ghio)

16 SANTA CRUZ BEACH

(J. Ghio)

16 UP ALL NIGHT (J. Ghio)

Honorable Mention

votes

TALL BEARDED

199 HELLO DARKNESS

(Schreiners)

157 COMING UP ROSES (J. Gatty)

122 AFTER THE STORM

(S. Innerst)

122 YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiners)

99 BLACK AS NIGHT (D. Meek)

98 GALLANT ROGUE (B. Blyth)

95 CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiners)

93 APLOMB (J. Ghio)

92 MULBERRY PUNCH

(Schreiners)

92 SIERRA GRANDE (Schreiners)

92 SPELLBREAKER (Schreiners)

91 ALASKAN SEAS

(J. McWhirter)

91 YELLOW BRICK ROAD

(J. Gibson)

89 APRIL IN PARIS (V. Wood)

86 SPEED LIMIT (L. Lauer)

79 MAGICIAN'S APPRENTICE

(B. Maryott)

78 BRONZETTE STAR

(E. Kegerise)

73 HARVEST KING (Schreiners)

71 DRUM ROLL (B. Hager)

65 INDIGO PRINCESS

(Schreiners)

63 TWILIGHT BLAZE (K. Keppel)

60 CHAMPAGNE WISHES

(K. Keppel)

60 EVELYN HARRIS

(J. McWhirter)

60 SEA QUEST (G. Shoop)

58 PEACE AND HARMONY

(J. Ghio)

58 POETIC (J. Ghio)

57 ISLAND DANCER (G. Shoop)

57 LACE LEGACY

(D. Greenwood)

56 CALM SEA (B. Hager)

56 ORANGE JEWELIUS

(D. Miller)

56 RAINBOW TOUR (P. Black)

55 LION'S SHARE (M. Jameson)

55 SNOWBELT (K. Keppel)

55 XANTHIPPE'S HALO

(D. Niswonger)

54 FIREBREATHING (Schreiners)

54 MELBA HAMBLIN (B. Hager)

51 FROSTICO (L. Gartman)

51 HANDSHAKE (J. Ghio)

50 NEPTUNE'S CLOAK

(B. Hager)

50 NORMA JEAN (J. Durrance)
 49 ART NOUVEAU (V. Messick)
 49 BEAUTIFUL VISION
 (Schreiners)
 49 CAN'T ELOPE (L. Miller)
 49 ELIZABETH POLDARK
 (R. E. Nichol)
 49 ENVOGUE (M. Dunn)
 49 FALL FIESTA (Schreiners)
 49 PINK SAPPHIRE
 (M. Hamblen)
 49 ROCK STAR (M. Byers)
 49 SANTIAGO (J. Ghio)
 49 STARDUST MEMORIES
 (Schreiners)
 49 TEMPERENCE (B. Maryott)
 48 CONFECTIONERY (R. Ernst)
 48 EVENING SILK (J. T. Aitken)
 47 COLETTE (B. Brown)
 46 FORGE FIRE (R. Ernst)
 46 MARTHA'S GOLD
 (J. T. Aitken)
 46 MODERN TIMES (J. Ghio)
 46 TUMBLIN' DICE (R. Nelson)
 45 OBA OBA (M. Dunn)
 45 WINTER ADVENTURE
 (P. Black)
 44 PERFECT PITCH (J. Gatty)
 41 CHER (R. Nelson)
 41 DAVID KEITH (J. Stadler)
 41 DIFFERENT APPROACH
 (S. Innerst)
 41 DUNSMUIR (B. Brown)
 41 FEMININE FIRE (R. Ernst)
 41 NIGHT FLAME (J. T. Aitken)
 41 SILK SILHOUETTE
 (L. Gartman)
 41 WINTERLAND (M. Byers)
 40 AFFIRMATION (G. Corlew)
 40 HILO SURF (J. Durrance)
 40 KATMANDU (J. Ghio)
 40 MEGABUCKS (C. Tompkins)
 40 SMILING GOLD (R. Ernst)
 40 SUNNY SHOULDERS
 (B. Hager)
 39 AUTUMN CIRCUS (B. Hager)
 39 DANCES WITH WOLVES
 (J. Loop)

39 LOVE BLUSH (H. Shockey)
 39 SNOW BURST (B. Hamner)
 38 BE A DREAM (D. Niswonger)
 38 CAJUN BEAUTY (Schreiners)
 38 ISLAND SUNSET (Schreiners)
 38 PIRATE'S QUEST (Schreiners)
 38 PRETTY WOMAN (B. Maryott)
 38 STOLEN DREAMS (B. Hager)
 38 WHISPERING (M. Hamblen)

BORDER BEARDED

104 PETITE BALLET (K. Keppel)
 78 BALLERINA PRINCESS
 (J. D. Stadler)
 60 KONA NIGHTS (J. T. Aitken)
 57 APRICOT FROSTY
 (D. Niswonger)
 55 SHRIMP BOAT (J. Gatty)
 43 BIT O MAGIC (L. Miller)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

91 CEE JAY (C. Lankow)
 69 MAUI GOLD (J. T. Aitken)
 69 PAWNEE PRINCESS
 (E. Jones)
 58 CALLING CARD (V. Messick)
 56 DARK WATERS (J. T. Aitken)
 56 HERS (A. Ensminger)

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

103 TWEETY BIRD (P. Black)
 82 NUT RUFFLES (C. Lankow)
 81 ORANGE DAZZLER (B. Jones)
 46 ICE AND INDIGO
 (A. & D. Willott)
 45 LEARN (S. Innerst)
 44 HOT (M. Byers)
 43 TOY CLOWN (J. Gatty)
 43 U-TURN (C. Boswell)
 43 WUNDERKIND (B. Hager)
 39 BE HAPPY (J. T. Aitken)
 36 ANGEL'S HALO (L. Miller)
 36 SNOW TREE (R. Sobek)
 36 PINKIE PAWS (L. Miller)
 34 JOAN MORITZ (M. Hagberg)
 33 AURORALITA (J. Weiler)
 33 BABY BOOM (M. Byers)
 33 FRENCH TOAST (D. Sindt)

- 33 SLAP BANG
 (O. D. Niswonger)
 33 TRANSCRIBE (P. Black)

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

- 33 S'MORE (J. T. Aitken)
 31 BITSY BLUE (L. Miller)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 63 OZARK DREAM (K. Fisher)
 48 OZARK JEWEL (K. Fisher)

ARILBRED (¼ to ½ Aril)

- 14 DESERT TRUMPET
 (L. Flanagan)
 9 ONCO G PLUS (C. Boswell)

ARIL (½ or more)

- 17 SERAPH JEWEL (H. Shockey)
 16 BIONIC FOCUS
 (H. Danielson)
 16 TURKISH HERALD
 (H. Shockey)
 14 JONNYE'S MAGIC (L. Rich)
 13 DESERT THUNDER
 (L. Flanagan)
 12 WARRIOR CHIEF
 (S. McAllister)
 10 BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL
 (S. McAllister)
 10 SWAZI DAME (H. Danielson)

SPURIA

- 26 HIGHLINE SNOWFLAKE
 (E. McCown)

- 22 ORO DE SONORA
 (F. Wickenkamp)

SIBERIAN

- 74 MOON SILK (H. Stahly)
 67 FROSTED CRANBERRY
 (A. M. Miller)

CALIFORNICAE

- 40 PACIFIC RIM (B. Jones)
 16 CHIEF SEQUOIA (J. Weiler)
 10 FAULT ZONE (J. Ghio)
 9 WESTERN BLUEBIRD
 (J. Weiler)

LOUISIANA

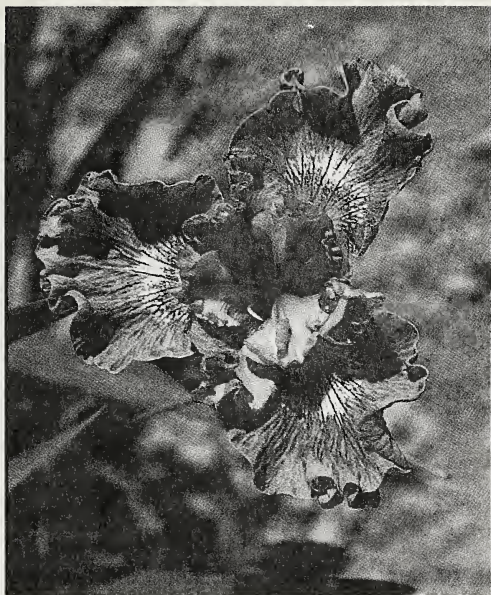
- 29 C'EST FANTASTIQUE
 (M. Dunn)
 24 COUP DE GRACE (M. Dunn)
 23 CAJUN COOKERY (B. Hager)
 21 JUST HELENE
 (J. Mertzweiller)
 20 COUP DE VILLE (M. Dunn)

SPECIES

- 29 CANDYSTRIPER
 (B. Warburton)
 28 BETWEEN THE LINES
 (Schafer/Sacks)

INTERSPECIES

- 94 PHIL EDINGER (B. Hager)
 42 HOLDEN'S CHILD (S. Tiffney)



**The Franklin Cook Cup Winner
was Bob Hollingworth's STRAWBERRY FAIR**

PRESIDENT'S CUP

Awarded to an iris hybridized by someone from the Host region—in this case, Region 13, and seen blooming in a convention garden.

Winner

FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiners '94), TB 167 votes

Runnersup

CALICO CAT (Lankow '89), BB 55 votes

DOTTED LINE (Reid '92), Sino-Sib 35 votes

COMPETITIVE EDGE (Ernst '91), TB 34 votes

REGAL AFFAIR (Shoop '90), TB 34 votes

FRANKLIN COOK CUP

Awarded to an iris hybridized by someone from outside the Host region and seen blooming in the convention gardens.

Winner

STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94), SIB 66 votes

Runnersup

BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '89), TB 41 votes

LAKE KEUKA (Borglum '94), SIB 33 votes

RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93), TB 31 votes



**President's Cup winner and Favorite
Guest Iris, Schreiner's FEATURE ATTRACTION**

FAVORITE GUEST IRISES, 1994

Ballots for the Favorite Guest Irises were returned by 658 visitors to the 1994 Portland area convention. Over 9600 votes were tallied for a large number of varieties.

Rank	Votes	Variety	Type	Hybridizer
1	250	Feature Attraction	TB	Schreiners
2	190	Strawberry Fair	SIB	Hollingworth
3	146	Black Tie Affair	TB	Schreiners
4	131	Calico Cat	BB	Lankow
5	127	Cote d'Or	TB	Schreiners
6	124	Before the Storm	TB	Innerst
7	121	Competitive Edge	TB	Ernst
	121	Maui Surf	BB	Aitken
8	107	Lake Keuka	SIB	Borglum
9	104	Sierra Grande	TB	Schreiners
10	96	Gypsy Romance	TB	Schreiners
11	94	Pardner	MTB	Fisher
12	80	Coming Up Roses	TB	Gatty
	80	Regal Affair	TB	Shoop
	80	Rhonda Fleming	TB	Mullin
	74	Winner Take All	TB	Ernst
14	73	Delta Blues	TB	Schreiners
15	72	Gallant Rogue	TB	Blyth

Runnersup in close contention included REBECCA PERRET, Cayeux, 71 votes; SMART MOVE, Keppel, 70 votes; ISLAND DANCER, Shoop, 66 votes; RAIN MAN, Meek, 61 votes; BALLERINA PRINCESS, Stadler, 59 votes; YAQUINA BLUE, Schreiner, 59 votes.

MEDIAN BLOOM IN PORTLAND

Jean E. Morris (Missouri)

The 1994 AIS Convention gardens in Portland, Oregon, are some of the finest we've ever visited. Having peak iris bloom and genuinely friendly hosts in each garden resulted in a superb convention, as we see it. Most certainly, many eyes were on the lovely tall bearded irises, but for some, the outstanding bloom of the Siberians and the species stole the show. Medians were also well represented, especially the border bearded and the miniature tall bearded.

At the Cooley Gardens we were warmly greeted by Rick Ernst and an immense rainbow of color in the iris display and guest beds. The beautiful fountain and gazebo near the display beds add a restful touch. MTBs performing were a Betty Wyss seedling, 881-15, growing in a nice clump of white with light violet plicata markings, OZARK DREAM (K. Fisher '92) a lovely bright lavender over deep black purple with white beards, OZARK JEWEL, also a Fisher '92 intro, with golden standards and gold trim on creamy white falls and CAROL'S DREAM (M. Dunderman '90) in vivid blue with a bit of white around white beards. In the BBs, CHAPTER (S. Innerst '89) was pretty, if an inch too tall, in gold tones with lavender blazes on the falls. The soil must be extra rich here, as many BBs were growing too tall. The star of the BBs was LOW SPIRITS (K. Keppel '94). We believe it must be a sib to his SPIRIT WORLD as it looks like a miniature version. It is a showy, fancy luminata—violet edged peach with peach styles over violet edged with a pencil line of peach with a white zonal around light orange beards and a white line at the ends of the beards. Wow! While it had good flower size and height for a BB, it had only one stalk. But what a stalk it was! LOW SPIRITS does not describe how it makes one feel! A nice IB growing here was LITTLE MERMAID (T. Magee '92) a fleshy soft pink self. It was lovely. There was so much to see at Cooley's, and we did as much looking as time allowed. The beautiful catalogue and calendar gave us more to look at as the bus took us away.

Nancy and Dave Silverberg's Garden was manicured to perfection, and we enjoyed their genuinely warm welcome. Here, the MTB, OZARK DREAM stole the show. BBs ZINC PINK (A. Ensminger '87) a wonderful, ruffled pink self and LAVENDER DUET (Evelyn Kegerise '91) a pretty combination of peach and bright amethyst, also performed well. We were wowed by RINKY-DINK (Keppel '93) a vivid peachy beige over peach with mauve plicata markings and orange beards tipped gold. MOSTEST (J. Durrance '90) was a bright spot in very bright yellow and Hal Stahly's BB seedling 90-20 looked promising in red black with old gold beards. In IBs, SMITTEN KITTEN (T. Aitken '91) was beautiful in cream over fleshy peach with cream beards as well as Marky Smith's IB seedling 90-30A, in purple over red purple with lavender beards.

At the Joyce and Duane Meek Garden, the Medians grew in their own special fenced in area making evaluation fast and easy. The garden adjoins their six and a half acre farm complete with sheep, ducks and geese. The four AIS youth members on the tour enjoyed this extra treat as well as the garden swing. MTBs performing well included PRETTY QUIRKY, a '92 intro by Riley Probst's late

wife Ann. It is a clean lemon over white with lilac wine veining and a yellow edge and beards. Also, a big clump of PARDNER (Fisher '93) was attractive in butterscotch over rich raspberry edged butterscotch. Showing up well was another Betty Wyss MTB seedling 8945-1, in clean yellow with golden beards. BBs were in abundance with CALICO CAT (C. Lankow '89) the star. This banded old gold over orchid combination formed a wonderful clump that everyone admired. Also, PEACH ICE CREAM (Lankow '93) a pale cantelope amoena with orange beards looked yummy, as did ZINC PINK and MINTAKA (J. Hummel '91) a ruffled pale blue with vivid blue beards and a thick waxy texture. We also liked ONE LITTLE PINKY (Durrance '92) a ruffled, lightly laced pink, ISLAND CHARM (Aitken '91) in light lemon over red banded light lemon and BABY GRAND (Meek '94) a lavender blue reverse amoena with lavender styles.

The Tracy and Wil Plotner Garden was filled with many large iris clumps, beautifully grown. We could not find even one weed. Here, PRETTY QUIRKY looked fantastic and was the MTB star. Also looking great was CHERRY (Dunderman '89). It is a bright amethyst plicata stitched on a white ground. REMINISCENCE (C. Mahan '92) a violet over deep black purple banded lighter with golden beards was showy as was BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '92) a light chocolate color with areas of goldenrod by the orange beards. Good BBs were TINK (Durrance '91) with mauve standards and yellow falls blended mauve set off with bright golden orange beards, PUNCH (C. Tompkins '89) in light golden beige over violet washed red with orange tipped beards and PETITE BALLET (Keppel '92) a light sky blue over white stitched blue purple. Also, PEACH ICE CREAM and ZINC PINK were again performing well. MAID OF ORANGE (Aitken '89) caught the eye as it made a bright spot the color of orange juice. Other BBs here were growing much too tall. We noted two IBs, MEGGLETHROP (Innerst '91) a blue with a darker spot and AMEILA BEDEILA (Innerst '91) approaching green with lemon lime standards and falls plus olive rays around golden beards.

The Ludi Garden had four hosts. They were John and Wava Ludi and their son John and his wife Kay. The garden is extensive with a large collection of new and vintage irises as well as convention guests all grown to perfection. What a treat! The MTBs PRETTY QUIRKY, CHERRY and REMINISCENCE were outstanding here. Also attractive was Ken Fisher's '92 intro, OZARK EVENING, a pale pink self. Many BBs were standouts, including PEACH ICE CREAM, MAID OF ORANGE, CALICO CAT and PETITE BALLET. In addition, we noted MELLOW FELLOW (L. Burton '94) a russet gold with a bit of white at the ends of its yellow beards, FLORENTINE FABLE (M. Robinson '91) a beautiful peach self and BERRY RICH (Ensminger '87) a jewel tone amethyst violet self with ruffles. Although some objected to the name, BABOON'S BOTTOM (B. Kasperek '94) had the variegated look we've enjoyed in Allan Ensminger's intros. This one is also uniquely colored in dusty rose with a darker overlay on the falls. IBs still in bloom were JOHN (Ensminger '90) chocolate over gold with gold beards, SUNNY DAWN (B. Jones '89) light yellow orange with tangerine beards, KIMMELFARBER (Innerst '91) a royal purple self with lavender blue styles and DARK WATERS (Aitken '92) in dark violet over black purple banded violet. We liked the big bushy beards on Evelyn Jones' medium orange IB seedling. It is 189-11-1.

The outstanding Barbara and Terry Aitken Garden was loaded with all types of irises while the refreshment area was decorated with a beautiful collection of orchids. Here, MTBs PARDNER and OZARK JEWEL again bloomed well and formed big clumps. In addition, STEFFIE (Fisher '93) was crisp in white with a clean blue spot on the falls. MTB seedling 851-4 by Betty Wyss grew well in unique colors of honey beige with lavender plicata markings and golden beards. Standout BBs were PEACH ICE CREAM, MAID OF ORANGE, SEA CADET (Aiken '93) a rich royal blue self, and MARGARET BEAUFORT (L. Burton '94) in violet with light lemon beards. We found the diminutive size of this last one refreshing, as several BBs were growing out of class and shall not be mentioned here. Three other nice BBs were CALICO CAT, LAVENDER DUET and AP-RICOT FROSTY (D. Niswonger '92) an apricot amoena. IBs still holding on were DARK WATERS and LEMON WHIP (Lankow '93) in cream over lemon lime.

The Schreiners Gardens are vast and beautiful. As we exited our bus, we were delighted to be greeted by the entire Schreiner family. The size of the guest and display gardens along with interesting distractions such as the flower show, made our time here fly by all too fast. There were four MTBs we favored. The standout was LITTLE CLOWN (Dunderman '93). A gold over red variegata, it clumped up nicely and displayed great branching. Also nice were OZARK JEWEL, BELLA VEE (Fisher '91) a corn yellow self and PARDNER. Best BBs were ANNE MC (D. Miller '91) a white with orange beards, ZINC PINK and PUNCH. We also liked Tompkin's '87 intro, CAT NAP, a mauve reverse bi-tone banded darker with orange beards. Some IBs were still in bloom. MISS SEDONA (Magee '93) is a lovely peach with orange beards and CEE JAY (Lankow '93) has purple standards over violet on white plicata marked falls and light blue beards. In addition, two IB seedlings were interesting. 89-27C by Marky Smith is a dark smoky purple with cream beards and 95-90-AM is an Arilbred Median by Carl Boswell of IB height in lavender over old gold with brown at the ends of old gold beards. We were pleased to meet Colleen and Ray Schreiner's son Ben, an avid soccer player but were disappointed that we missed meeting Ben's sister, Molly, who we hear is great in gymnastics. The bus whistle was blowing. We were sad to leave this incredibly beautiful garden.

Ellen and Tom Abrego's Garden contains all beardless varieties, and are they beautifully grown!!! We did take note of BABY SISTER (C. McEwen '86) a fifteen inch Siberian in blue violet. It's "Almost a Median." Right? What a perfect size for the rock garden or in front of the border. We hope to see more of these in the future.

There were many beautiful Medians to enjoy at the Vicki and Jim Craig Garden. OZARK DREAM and CAROL'S DREAM were the standout MTBs, blooming in large floriferous clumps. We like all of the Fisher "Ozark" series, but OZARK DREAM is our favorite. Of the BBs we liked SUNSPINNER (L. Markham '91) a nice lemon with paler spot by goldenrod beards, WOOLING (M. Jameson '93) a ruffled pink of nice size and growing in class, BABOON'S BOTTOM, SATIN SASHES (Markham '91) a ruffled white with light lemon beards, LEMON UP (Magee '94) a showy soft yellow self and DOUBLE BANDED (Boswell '88) a bright lemon with gold spot.

Medians performed very well in Portland, and the voting reflected this as border bearded, CALICO CAT, was voted first runner-up to the President's Cup. We saw many great TBs with good branching and bud count that we want to add to our garden. But there were far too many TBs with floppy, enormous flowers placed on the upper third of the stalk. These may attract at first glance but do not improve the class, or anyone's garden, either. We saw many Medians with potential as great landscaping plants which will stand up in windy areas, have enough buds to bloom for extended periods of time and add one's favorite showy colors to those spots in the garden where a TB would not fit.

Seeing the beautiful Portland gardens was a wonderful experience which afforded us the opportunity to evaluate many irises of all classes, and our want list has grown as a result. Seeing so many outstanding Medians doing well doubled the enjoyment for us.

BEARDLESS IRISES AT THE CONVENTION

Clarence Mahan (Virginia)

Have you ever seen a tall bearded iris without a beard? Duane Meek has a "tall bearded" iris seedling whose flowers have a small pink ridge where the beard would normally be found. It looks a bit like an exotic evansia. It is soft pink, and the flowers are exquisitely ruffled with good substance. Duane plans on registering and introducing this seedling in the near future. It was the most unusual "beardless" iris I saw at the Portland convention. But there were many other beardless irises in the gardens at Portland.

I do not remember a convention with such a diversity of beardless irises. We saw Siberian cultivars in abundance, including many 40 chromosome species and hybrids; Pacific Coast Natives; spurias, including *Iris graminea*; Japanese irises; an array of *Iris laevigata* cultivars; different forms of *Iris pseudacorus*; forms of *Iris prismatica*; forms of *Iris versicolor* and *Iris virginica*; Louisiana irises; and a number of interspecies hybrids that were truly unique.

Considering the splendid showing of beardless irises at Portland, it was not surprising that the luscious STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94), a highly ruffled, large flowered tetraploid Siberian was voted the Cook Cup as favorite out-of-region iris. Another Siberian cultivar was second runner-up for the Cook Cup: Dana Borglum's LAKE KEUKA ('94). The clump guesting at the Silverberg's was nothing short of perfection. Its flowers are medium blue with lighter blue edges and styles, giving the impression of a lightly ruffled bitone. Think of all the superlatives that have ever been used to describe a Siberian iris, and you will come close to capturing the essence of this iris. The branches hold their buds high above the foliage; the foliage is straight and lushly green; and the proportion of all the parts is ideal.

There were many Siberian iris guests at Portland. Hollingworth's SIMPLE GIFTS ('94) is a large flowered, very pale lavender that looks white in the Oregon sun. It performed nicely in every garden where it was a guest, and its name, taken from the old Shaker hymn, perfectly matches its large, tailored flowers. Another consistently outstanding performer of great beauty was Bea Warburton's VICKI ANN ('90), a light blue with darker shoulders. Currier McEwen's velvety red-violet tetraploid REGENCY BUCK ('85) was seen in spectacular clump in the Abrego garden, as was his tiny BABY SISTER ('86), a dwarf which would be ideal for use in rock gardens and for the front of a perennial border.

The attractively landscaped Abrego garden was a beardless iris paradise. Massive clumps of blue JAYBIRD (Hager '82), white KING OF KINGS (Varner '83), and purple CLEVE DODGE (McEwen '71) in the upper area of the garden were spectacular. In addition to the guest irises, this garden displayed many older Siberians and species irises. CONGO DRUMS (Marx '56) was an odd formed, purple, historic Siberian I had not seen before. There were magnificent clumps of TEALWOOD, BELLISSIMA, MARSHMALLOW FROSTING, LAST ACT, ANN DASCH, and SPARKLE.

Some of the most interesting irises at Abrego's were the 40-chromosome Siberians, the Cal-Sibs, and various species. It is not often one sees *I. prismatica plicata*, *I. prismatica alba*, *I. pseudacorus*, *I. forrestii* and such rarities as BLUE WILSON (McGarvey '72), STILLES WASSER (Berlin '80), FORETELL, (McGarvey '70), and VELVET PENNANT (Witt '79) blooming in a tour garden—indeed, I have never seen it before. BLUE WILSON resulted from a cross between *I. wilsonii* and a blue Siberian. STILLES WASSER, with blue flowers, is believed to be a cross of *I. siberica* and *I. setosa*. FORETELL, lovely but unusually colored blue and yellow, resulted from a cross of *I. forrestii* and a 28-chromosome Siberian seedling. VELVET PENNANT (Witt '78), a deep velvety, near black Cal-Sib, was very nice with its mixed *I. tenax* and *I. chrysographes* heritage quite evident.

Elaine Hulbert was very impressed with the Aitken's extensive collection of beardless irises, and graciously provided me with some notes. At this garden there was a constant crowd around Lorena Reid's DOTTED LINE ('92), a Sino-Siberian. A derivative of *I. clarkei*, this iris has, in Elaine's words, "... a tall copen-blue flower with a large creamy white signal unlike the signal of any other iris."

Commenting on the wide-cross hybrids of Dumas-Quesnel, Elaine noted: "BELLE PROMESSE, ENFANT PRODIGE and NOUVEL AGE show so much typical reddish *versicolor* character that I must conclude they have been backcrossed to *versicolor* several times. Funny thing: they looked much bluer at Schreiner's than they did in other gardens. Schreiner's evidently fed all their irises the "Food of the Gods" because they were gigantic. The only Dumas-Quesnel seedling that really announced to me some *laevigata* genes was ORIENTAL TOUCH, with a spear signal on the falls instead of a yellow patch." All of these irises are fascinating, and represent the "cutting edge" of iris hybridizing.

Elaine and I were both delighted to find some Pacific Coast Native irises still in bloom. In the Meek garden there were quite a few *I. douglasiana* hybrids in yellow, violet and blue; and at Aitken's there were some lovely Ghio cultivars such as bright yellow COASTAL GLOW ('92); beautiful LOS CALIFORNIO

('89), purple with a gold sunburst signal; stunningly purple DEEPENING SHADOWS ('85); and light blue RIO DEL MAR ('80). And then there was the red and brown TABASCO CAT, which was in Dave and Nancy Silverberg's garden.

Although there were not a lot of spurias yet in bloom, I was fortunate to be on the same bus with Bobbie and Don Shepard which allowed me to call upon their keen eyes for these splendid irises. Charles Jenkins's ALPHASPU ('92) is an early blooming, ruffled yellow. It was growing well everywhere, with lots of stalks with 5 buds. Jenkins's BRONZE ART ('92) was very nice also. At Silverberg's, the Jenkins seedling C35-14A had only one flower partially opened, but the gorgeous orange color attracted lots of attention. Dave Niswonger's RUSSIAN BLUE and RUSSIAN WHITE were just beginning to open, and many of us were delighted to be able to see these unique cultivars.

At Cooley's BELISE (Simonet '67) was in flower; this lavender offspring of *I. maritima* X *I. cartholiniae* is splendid for floral arrangements, and grows well everywhere. A Pete Desantis violet seedling, 82-6B, was looking very nice in the Aitken garden.

One iris that was readily identifiable in several gardens was Lorena Reid's SPRINGTIME SNOW ('84). This smaller flowered white iris with three falls is always the first Japanese iris to bloom; its early bloom was the reason it was introduced. At the Meek garden there were several Japanese irises in bloom, including the very beautiful red-violet, six-fall MCKENZIE SUNSET (Reid '89). This cultivar has white rays and white styles tipped violet. Also at Meek's was a blooming clump of the hauntingly lovely, brown-colored HOLDEN CLOUGH, an iris with unusual parentage but with much appeal.

It was early for Louisiana irises, but John Taylor's stunning, white SWISS CHALET (86/87) was starting to bloom. Mary Dunn's very nice bitone rose COUP DE VILLE gave conventioners the gift of a few early flowers.

There were a number of forms of *Iris laevigata* in bloom, especially in the Meek and Aitken gardens. Some of the cultivars to be found for those who looked were MOTTLED BEAUTY, REGAL, COLCHESTERENSIS, SEMPERFLORENS, and ALBA.

One of the most interesting collections of beardless irises was in the Ludi garden. Not only were there many magnificent clumps of some great Siberian irises such as EGO, SPARKLE, WHITE SWIRL, SHIRLEY POPE and PINK HAZE; but there was also an array of different species in bloom. There were Dutch irises, English irises, *I. graminea*, *I. douglasiana*, *I. tectorum*, and several forms of *I. versicolor* including the cultivar WILD WINE (W. Sindt '84). I was amazed to see clumps of *I. graminea* planted in full sun and doing very nicely. In my garden in Virginia I must grow this species with plum-scented flowers in full shade for it to succeed.

Portland was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. And best of all, there were beardless irises in bloom everywhere! Duane Meek even makes bearded irises into beardless irises. Portland was magic!

Photo Gallery



Ray Schreiner and other family members greet conventioners.



**Walther Cup Winner
HELLO DARKNESS**



**Hal Stahly and Rick Ernst
in the guest beds at
Cooley's**



**A special treat for many
irisarians was the chance
to visit with Bob
Schreiner. Here, he talks
with Larry Harder.**



Dave Niswonger, Hal Stahly, George Shoop, Barry Blyth, and Roberta Shoop in Shoop Garden.

PHOTO CREDITS: Bill Maryott 22, 36, 49; Mike Lowe 24, 40, 57 bottom, 60 bottom, 67, 75 top left, middle, bottom; Wil Plotner 28, 43, 45; Joanne Derr 31; Marky Smith 44, 59 bottom; Bryce Williamson 48, 76; Roger Mazur 50, 51, 52; Steve Stevens 53 top; Lynda Miller 53 middle, 55 bottom, 56 bottom; Faron Campbell 53 bottom; Bob Hollingworth 54 top, Joe Ghio 54 middle and bottom; Terry Aitken 55 top and middle, 58 bottom, Ben Hager 56 top; Floyd Wickenkamp 56 middle; Schreiner's 57 top, 75 top right; Bob Plank 58 top, 60 top; Glenn Corlew 59 top; Ronald Mullin 68.

ADVERTISERS THIS ISSUE: American Iris Society calendar Cover 3, Aril Society International page 86, Halcyon cover 4, Iris Video page 87, Just Crazy About page 88, Superstition Garden page 87.

HOW TO REGISTER AND INTRODUCE AN IRIS

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

REGISTRATIONS

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Keith Keppel, P.O. Box 18145, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 for each registration and \$10.00 for transferring a name from one iris to another.
2. Select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval when you request the blank. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registration and Introduction* booklets (beginning with 1990). Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been filed and approved, and a certificate of registration has been returned to you.
3. Names should follow the rules established by the **International Horticultural Code**. The following names shall not be permitted:
 - a. Names of living persons without their written permission, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.
 - b. Names of persons with the following forms of address or their equivalent in other languages: Mr., Mrs., Miss. Ms.
 - c. Names including numerals or symbols, or any form of punctuation other than apostrophe, hyphen or period.
 - d. Names beginning with the articles "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
 - e. Abbreviations and contractions unless required by linguistic custom.
 - f. Latin names or latinized forms.
 - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
 - h. Slight variation of previously registered name.
 - i. Names containing more than three words, ten syllables or thirty letters.
 - j. Names containing the word "iris".
 - k. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate; e.g., Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black.
 - l. Names translated from the original language. (They may be transliterated as necessary).
 - m. Names formed entirely by recombining parts of the parental species' names.
4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists and advertisements in the *Bulletin of the American Iris Society* are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite for awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for these awards until after it has been recorded with the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar-Recorder a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail, highlighting your introductions **prior to October 15**. Acknowledgement of introduction(s) will be made.

DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins (Georgia)

The skill of flower arranging is only improved by “doing,” and a little study does not hurt either. You start with the desire to cut some flowers from your garden and bring them inside. Cut them late in the evening or early morning. The hot noon-day heat is a time when the plants are trying their best to deal with the heat, and the flowers are very likely to wilt.

The next step is to find a container to put them in. You may have a favorite vase, or a low bowl container that will work very well. Fight off the urge to just put them down in a jelly glass, and accept the challenge to “arrange” them. A favorite starting container is a low bowl container where you can easily place a block of oasis or a needle point. In a previous issue oasis was described as a green substance that holds water and holds the flowers upright. Florists use it all the time, so you may recognize it from an arrangement you received. Once holes are put into oasis by inserting the plant material, they are there forever. Therefore, use oasis once and discard. If the holes are not too large, you can reuse it but remember that it harbors bacteria from the first usage and your flowers may not hold up as well. The needlepoint is just that—a series of needle like protrusions imbedded in a heavy lead base. The stems of many plants are thick (like iris) and work very well in this mechanic. The needlepoint may come in a cup or it may be plain and can be used by placing it in the bottom of the container. To stabilize it you may attach it to the bottom of the bowl with a sticky clay. To locate any of the above mentioned materials check with your local craft store or florist.

The photographs illustrate the 1-2-3-4 process of putting the flower arrangement together. Number 1 shows the container with iris foliage (for height, line and rhythm) placed at the back of the needlepoint. This will allow you to come forward with the rest of your material; otherwise, you will run out of room before you get all of your plant material in the container.



Photo 1: Container with foliage placed at the back of the needlepoint.

Picture No. 2 shows additional material added (aucuba leaves) which add another form to the arrangement. The third picture adds some gold thread cypress for texture and interest. The fourth photograph shows the flowers added—in this case they are Louisiana irises. That was easy, wasn't it? 1-2-3-4! This is one of the easiest and most popular ways to learn flower arranging and to build confidence. Please try this and see if you can't see similar results.



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

Photo 6 shows a design in the Oriental manner. This was done by Alma Burgamy and is for a class called: "Spiritual Awakening."



Picture No. 5 shows the finished design in a small round container placed on top of a vase (for better viewing and some lift to the design). This is a good way to raise up a design to fit the space. The high design would also fit nicely on a buffet table with a limited amount of actual table space.

Now that you have done this much, do another design and try using bare tree branches instead of the iris foliage, or use yucca spears or bamboo sticks. The choice of materials is endless. Aucuba leaves may not be available either, and you could use any leaf form that blends with the flowers. The added texture of the cypress could be fern, juniper, or any textured plant material. This creates interest in the arrangement and keeps it from being flat. All irises (or almost any flower) will do well in this design—and more blooms can be used. Of course, restraint is sometimes better when showing off our flower form, especially irises.

Picture No. 6 is a flower design exhibited this spring in a class called "Spiritual Awakening" and is done in the oriental manner. This style of design is usually done with traditional placement of plant materials and much restraint is used to best show off the flowers. The design was done by Alma Burgamy of Milledgeville, Georgia, and she used Louisiana irises.

If any of you have pictures of top designs in your flower shows, please send them to me and they will possibly be used in future articles. Sorry, the photo cannot be returned. It should be a 4x6 or 3x5 photo, clearly focused and include the schedule with the class marked and who did the design so credit can be given.

Send any questions, photos or comments to Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512.

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<i>HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS</i>	complete ...	\$6.00	
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<i>1939 CHECK LIST</i>		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
<i>1949 CHECK LIST</i>		\$10.00	
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<i>1959 CHECK LIST</i>		\$10.00	
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<i>1979 CHECK LIST</i>		\$17.00	
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<i>RHS COLOUR CHARTS</i>			\$45.00
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Colorado Springs, Co 80918

Phone: (719) 598-2024

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HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

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January 19–July 17, 1994

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AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

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Your ideas, suggestions and questions are always welcome.
ANN CLINE, Region 6

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Portland Hilton Hotel
Portland, Oregon

May 21 & 22, 1994

The regular spring meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society was called to order at 1:30 p.m., May 21, 1994, by President Claire Barr. Present at the various sessions were President Barr; Immediate Past President K. Waite; 1st Vice President Niswonger; 2nd Vice President Mahan; Secretary J. Plank; Treasurer Corlew; Editor Mullin; Membership Secretary Harlow; Recording Secretary King; Publication Sales Director C.J. Lack; Directors Aitken (1994 Convention Chairman), Crick, Gristwood, Harder, McWhirter, Stahly, Waters, Wilhoit and Witt; RVP Board Representative Gossett (22); Photo Coordinator R. Plank; Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen Brookins, Fulton, M. Lowe, Moller and Morris; RVPs Schmieder (1), Schueler (2), Epperson (4), Honkanen (5), Willott (6), Gifford (7), Frisch (8), Meyer (11), Smith (13), Williamson (14), Rinehart (15), Probst (18), Griner (19), Mazur (20), Perkins (23) and Christopher (24); Assistant RVPs Cline (6) and Bergamo (23); Section Representatives Glasser (MIS) Kiyomoto (SIGNA), Shepard (SIS) and Tankesley-Clarke (DIS); guests D. Schmieder, A. Waite (1); A. Lowe, Marley (4); Reynolds, Luna (7); A. Machulak, W. Machulak (8); Craig, Wesemann (13); L. Conrad, R. Conrad, Jones, D. Shepard (15); Howard, Winship (17); Szmuriga (19); Wiekhorst (20); Stanek (21); Hickerson, K. Lack Smith (22); Jordan, Figge (23).

President Barr welcomed those present and invited their questions and comments with the reminder that only Board members could vote on the Society's business. Introductions followed and everyone was requested to sign the attendance books. Agenda sheets were available as general guidelines, though it was stated some reports might be given out of sequence when necessary.

Harder moved, Gossett seconded, that the minutes of the 1993 fall Board meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma be approved as published in the *AIS Bulletin* #292. Motion carried.

Barr reported that the only interim Board action was the approval of Joanne King of Region 7 as the new AIS Recording Secretary.

Barr presented several questions that had been brought to her attention since the last Board meeting. One concerning Judges' Training would be discussed later during that report.

At the fall Board meeting the Board had directed Secretary Stayer to keep and pass on to the new secretary all records going back five years plus the year in progress and to dispose of older records. In the interim, Barr had asked Stayer to wait before disposing of the older records, as there were some reservations about that length of time. After discussion a motion was made by Aitken, seconded by Mahan, that the Board reaffirm the five-year limit for the preservation of the AIS Secretary's records plus the year in progress. Motion carried, Corlew moved, McWhirter seconded, that correspondence files to be purged, particularly parts to be purged dealing with business of the AIS, be preserved in the Archives. The distinction between the Archives kept by the Publication Sales Director and the historical papers and documents collected by the Historical Committee Chairman, which comprised the Library, was pointed out, the latter being relocated in Dresden, Tennessee, as the AIS Library. Corlew withdrew his motion and moved that these files of correspondence be sent to Secretary Plank and held until such time as Dresden would be ready to receive the material. Plank seconded. Motion carried.

Barr presented a book which had been sent to Jeane Stayer as a gift to The American Iris Society by Lech Komarnicki, its author. Komarnicki is the only Polish member of the AIS. The book is written in his native language with photographic illustrations by Keith Keppel. Niswonger moved, Stahly seconded, that the book be placed in the AIS Archives. Motion carried.

Barr shared with the Board her copy of the book, *Iris Laevigata*, by Akira Horinaka of Japan. The book is a gift of the author, who is an AIS member and Master Judge, and is a remarkable pictorial documentation of Kakitsubata, written in Japanese with English translation.

Of special interest also, was a copy of the 1993 *Bulletin* of The Italian Iris Society describing the International Competition held in Florence each year, with accompanying video of the iris garden; the video will be viewed later in the meeting.

Lastly, from Germany came a letter and partial manuscript just received from author Rainer Zeh, a new work on irises, particularly tall bearded, offered for consideration of publication by The American Iris Society. Since the material was in German, Barr referred the manuscript to member Ilse Rasmussen for later discussion.

International iris interest was apparent at this convention with the registration of fifty-nine individuals from outside North America.

President Barr concluded her report with thoughts for future consideration. In the forefront was a plan to develop a personnel file in order to list the special interests, talents and abilities of members.

Secretary Plank reported on the gradual assumption of her new duties and mentioned the response from an article in *Home Magazine* on irises giving Plank's address as a reference for the book, *The World of Irises*.

Plank brought up the practicality of shipping Stayer's very large copy machine from Tulsa to California versus selling it in Tulsa and applying the proceeds to a smaller, less expensive machine which would be adequate to the needs of the new secretary, with some savings realized from shipping costs. Discussion concerned whether or not Editor Mullin, who had not yet arrived at the Board meeting, might be able to use the large copier. McWhirter moved that the AIS dispose of the old copier in Tulsa and that Jeanne Plank be permitted to purchase a smaller one in California for her own use as AIS secretary. Aitken seconded. Motion carried.

Corlew then brought up the matter of the typewriter in Tulsa that had been bought for Jeane Stayer when she was AIS secretary. Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that the AIS allow Stayer to keep the typewriter as a token of appreciation for her years of service. Motion carried.

Plank concluded her report, inviting suggestions/questions at any time.

Membership Secretary Harlow distributed new AIS Membership books for each Board member. The new issue is now available for sale. As stated in the report mailed prior to the meeting to Board members, Harlow spoke in favor of a time-payment for a Life Membership requested by an AIS member. Harlow stated that granting this request would not set too great a precedent. Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the matter of the member who wanted to buy a Life Membership in installments be turned over to Harlow to handle, without setting a precedent. Motion carried. Following discussion, Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the President appoint a committee to work out a plan for time-payments for Life Memberships. Motion carried.

Harlow asked the Board to set guidelines so that she could make decisions on where to limit sales of AIS labels; heretofore, outside sales were made only to those groups having horticultural endeavors, which should be continued. She recommended an increase from \$250 to \$275 for labels. Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that current AIS policy for sales be reaffirmed, that the price be raised to \$275 plus postage per complete set to all buyers. It was noted that since most sales are made to regions, and since regions seldom order full sets, the price increase should not affect them for the most part.

Again the Membership Secretary raised the question regarding sending out second notices for dues. McWhirter moved, Corlew seconded, that the Membership Secretary's office stop sending second dues notices to delinquent members. Motion carried.

The first copy of the new Invitation to Join brochures in color was presented to President Barr. Corlew, who worked on the committee with Harlow and Waters, said that while the color illustrated brochures had been developed primarily for the Membership Secretary and the AIS Secretary to send to new or interested AIS prospects, it was the committee's recommendation that those interested in purchasing them for private or promotional purposes be allowed to buy them for a price covering the cost of printing. Corlew moved, Waters seconded, that the new invitations be distributed for \$1.00 each to those who want to buy them. After discussion, Corlew moved that his motion be tabled. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Corlew distributed copies of the Interim Financial Report to Board members, explaining some items and noting that, as was customary for this period, expenses were greater than income. Questions were deferred until later in the meeting.

After an intermission, the meeting resumed with President Barr calling attention to a display of poster contest entries for the 75th Anniversary observance next year. She announced that voting would take place during this meeting and that the winner would be announced at the Awards Banquet.

Barr called upon Corlew with regard to the possible use of Stayer's copier by the Editor. Mullin was reported not to need the larger size machine. Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that the AIS sell the copier now used by Stayer and buy for the Editor a copy machine comparable to the size being bought for Secretary Plank. Corlew estimated the savings would amount to \$450 to \$500 for the AIS. Motion carried.

Waters listed the following assignments from the Board as completed: new color Membership Invitations, new pictures for the AIS display screen and the first sets of the new iris picture post cards. After passing a set of cards to each Board member, Waters reported the second run was underway, as approved by the Board. Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the cards be offered at \$4 per packet of 16, and for business sales, 10 packets for \$24. Following discussion in which it was pointed out that, as with the AIS calendars, a quantity discount for the postcards should be offered to everyone. The motion was amended by Corlew to state that the cards be offered at \$4 per packet and at a quantity price of 10 packets for \$25 (rather than \$24) to all who wanted them. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried.

Editor Mullin reported on a comparison of the AIS *Bulletin* and The American Hemerocallis Society *Journal* with regard to color, size and cost of printing, based on information obtained from Frances Gatlin, editor of the AHS *Journal*. Mullin commented on the contents of the up-coming July *Bulletin* and went on to discuss the cost of color pages and some of the problems of the size of the *Bulletin*. Comments were made about the AHS *Journal*, one being the abundance of Robins' pages. Regret was expressed on the absence of "Flightlines" and "International News" in the AIS *Bulletin*. Credit was given Kay Nelson-Keppel for her handling of the large ad section in the April *Bulletin*. The desire of members to see more colored pictures and gardens in each issue was expressed, and a number of suggestions were made.

Barr stated she would appoint a committee to study the suggestions later in the meeting.

Mullin requested that thought be given to the economy of leaving off the addresses when listing the regions with their affiliates and presidents in *the Bulletin*. After much discussion, Mahan moved, Witt seconded, that when the affiliate listing is printed in *the Bulletin* in the future, that the presidents' names and addresses no longer be included, and a brief announcement be printed referring those who need such information to the Membership Secretary. Motion carried.

Corlew proposed that the Board consider reprinting *The World of Irises* while there are copies still available. Questions were raised about the cost of the original printing, the reprint and the plates. Corlew emphasized that the book, because of the illustrations, should be reprinted in hard back cover. Barr stated that the question would be placed on the fall agenda.

Affiliates Chairman Niswonger began his interim report by thanking RVPs for their work in getting information to him. Copies of his interim report were distributed to each Board member. Niswonger informed the Board that there were more affiliates in the making and spoke about the advantages to local clubs of affiliating, and the advantages to the AIS in having more affiliates, all offering new prospects for expansion of the AIS.

Chairman Wilhoit presented the Awards Report, saying the Symposium and Ballot were finished; 841 ballots had been mailed to judges, 11 to Canada and 19 overseas. At this time Niswonger brought up the work he and Bennett Jones were doing on a "keeper" trophy for the President's Cup, the Walther Cup and the Franklin Cook Cup; with only two medals remaining on hand, he suggested the "keeper" medal be given for the Walther Cup and the two silver medals for the Franklin Cook Cup and the President's Cup. Niswonger added that the "keeper" trophy approved by the Board was costing \$61 plus \$7 for shipping.

Wilhoit read a letter from RVP Griner, Region 19, concerning the Morgan-Wood Medal for Siberian irises. This medal, formerly the Wood Medal, was originally given by Betty Wood and Region 19 to honor Mrs. Wood's husband, the late Ira Wood. The Executive Board of Region 19 and Mrs. Wood have agreed to turn over the remaining five medals and the right to re-strike them to the Society for Siberian Irises with the condition that the award continue to maintain the recognition of former Region 19 member, Ira Wood. Mrs. Wood has offered to make a significant donation to continue this award.

As a tribute to the designer of the new Wister Medal for tall bearded irises, Mahan moved that Nancy Harkins be given one of the medals in recognition of her artistic contribution to the AIS, such medal being procured from Region 1. Corlew seconded. Motion carried.

Barr stated that because of increased responsibilities of the Awards Committee she was appointing a committee to study these responsibilities and to re-set the guidelines for the committee. She asked Niswonger to serve as chairman with Waite, Wilhoit and Bennett Jones as members.

Exhibition Chairman Gristwood yielded to Youth Chairman Morris for her report. Morris announced the winners of the Youth Achievement Award for 1994, stating the seven nominations from Regions 1, 9, 14, 18 and 19 were judged by Gordon Green, Region 17, Youth Chairman Sara Jane Pederson, Region 20, and Kathy Rice Woolsey, Region 5 member at large. First place went to Andrew Wheeler of Coltraine, Massachusetts, Region 1; in second place was Shilo Gillam of Garden City, Kansas, Region 18; third place was awarded Erin Marie Griner of Bordentown, New Jersey, Region 19. Morris gave recognition to the hard work of the regional Youth chairmen, citing the positive effect the local Youth Advisors have on the program. Regional Youth Chairmen are still needed in Regions 3, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16.

Mahan suggested that the unsold AIS calendars be made available to affiliates and other organizations such as schools and suggested also that RVPs be advised at their meeting that the AIS would pay shipping upon request.

Region 11 RVP Meyer, who would be conducting the RVP meeting, asked that Gristwood, Exhibitions Chairman; Crick, Judges' Training Chairman; and Harlow, Membership Secretary, be present to answer any questions.

Exhibition Chairman Gristwood's interim report listed 187 show schedules turned in so far, with two cancellations. Gristwood was concerned about two instances in which affiliates were charging admission. She had promptly advised them that this was against AIS rules. Clubs in some cases were having the schedules printed by the time approvals/corrections were received, so that appropriate changes were not made on the final show programs; this was apparent in several schedules sent the following year for approval with the same mistakes. Objections to this practice were voiced by Board members. Gristwood was advised to notify each local group that such action would bring the withholding of AIS awards and medals. Gristwood said that show reports properly completed, legible, especially in regard to ECs, and addresses, with signatures, are essential to her records and awards. The Chairman also suggested that a die needed to be made for future Youth medals. The new die will cost \$800. Gristwood moved that the die be made. Waters seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 5:05 p.m. and re-convened at 8:15 the next morning, June 22, 1994.

Judges' Training Chairman Crick had no formal report other than to note the loss of several Emeritus Judges. Crick introduced RVP Williamson of Region 14, who submitted a request to the Board concerning an error in which an apprentice judge's name was omitted from the 1993 list submitted to the Judges' Training Chairman for recommendation to the Board. After being advised by the Judges' Training Chairman of the AIS policy not to amend the list after it has been approved, the matter was brought before executive and general committees of Region 14 at their 1994 spring meeting. Williamson

was instructed by the committees to ask formally that the AIS Board reconsider the ruling since it was an obvious error, not a fault of the applicant. After a lengthy discussion it was the general consensus that fairness would not be served by compounding a simple correctable error. Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that the list be amended and the apprentice judge's name be included for approval. A written ballot was requested; motion carried.

Returning to the matter of the committee to reset the guidelines of the Awards Committee, Barr noted that formal approval had not been given to the committee appointed earlier and requested that Waite, Wilhoit, and Bennett Jones with Niswonger as Chairman, be approved at this time. Witt so moved. Aitken seconded. Motion carried.

Barr next asked for approval of a committee to revise the Judges' Handbook. With the Judges' Training Chairman serving as chairman of the committee, Barr named Crick, McWhirter, Roy Epperson, Mullin and Phil Williams to the committee, stating all had agreed to serve if approved. Stahly so moved, Harder seconded. Motion carried.

Barr announced that after almost ten years of service as Judges' Training Chairman, Hilda Crick will retire from this position in the fall of 1994.

In order to afford a smooth transition of duties, Barr submitted the name of Glenn Corlew for approval as chairman-elect of Judges' Training at this time. Stahly so moved, Plank seconded. Motion carried. It was expected that Corlew would also assume chairmanship of the Handbook Revision Committee in the fall and that Crick would remain a member of the committee. The Board extended to Crick a vote of thanks for her many years of service.

Chairman Harder of the Historical Committee reported he was still conducting the normal business of collecting material and catalogues. He had also contacted the RVPs to name a liaison person in each region to work with him in coordinating and collecting the historical and personal papers of deceased persons from relatives who would like to donate them. To the matter of Historical Committee funding, Corlew suggested transferring the \$167 remaining in that account to the Library account, and handling the Historical Committee expenses in the same manner as other committees are handled in the general budget. Mahan moved, Harder seconded, that the restricted Historical Committee's account be abolished and the balance transferred to the Library. Motion carried.

Harder stated that he continued to process and sort the more current periodicals into collections. Two suggestions were: that RVPs be alerted to ask members for contributions and that members designate an irisanian friend to handle the dispensation of any private iris-related collections posthumously.

Membership Contest Chairman McWhirter said a written report would be submitted in November. He spoke of Wilhoit's help in the transfer of office and commented that contest mail was slow at this time.

Membership Secretary Harlow stated that names were still being received in her office along with dues. In order to receive Membership Contest credit, a separate notice with name, address and credit must be sent to Contest Chairman. Membership Secretary Harlow does not forward entries to the Membership Contest Chairman.

Policy Chairman Lowe observed that his written report, given to the Board after each meeting, is a two-part policy document, a compilation of actions taken at the last Board meeting, to be filed with previous policy actions and a new index to replace the previous one. Plank asked that a date be put by index entries.

Public Relations Chairman Waters asked, with reference to the issue of pricing new post cards, if there could be an offering of packets for a certain price as there had been before. Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the previous motion to offer one packet of cards for \$4 and ten packets for \$25 be amended to say that a third category of pricing be added, three packets for \$10. Motion carried. Post card prices now include the following: one packet for \$4, three packets for \$10 and ten packets for \$25.

Both the Robins and Scientific Committee reports were postponed, and the Scholarship Chairman was asked to give her report. Witt announced that from the twenty-five applications for 1994-95, Shanna Carney, University of Georgia, was awarded first place on reproductive biology of *Iris fulva* and *Iris hexagona*; Kevin Horst, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, placed second with population genetics on rare and common species of Blue-eyed grass in Colorado; third place was Chrissen Gemmill, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, on molecular systematics of the native Hawaiian palm genus, *Pritchardia*. Members of the Scholarship Committee were Elsiemae Nicholson, James Waddick, Phil Ogilvie and Sharon McAllister.

Witt read a recent letter from Region 4 RVP Epperson which accompanied a memorial gift check donated in honor of William Barr and Rena F. Crumpler and specified for scholarship. Witt presented two options for Board consideration to best apply this donation. The donation could either be added to the current \$2,000 for an increased award or be added to an amount designated by the Board for a new scholarship. Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the amount designated for scholarship this year be increased and the increased amount added to the Region 4 memorial gift for another scholarship of \$2000. Motion carried. Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that the two scholarships be awarded the two top recommendations of the committee. Motion carried. Stahly moved that a resolution of thanks be given to Region 4 through RVP Epperson for their support of the Scholarship Fund.

There was an intermission for the showing of the video on the iris garden of Florence, Italy. It is hoped copies of the video can be made available to the regions. A twenty-minute break followed.

The meeting resumed with a report from Foundation Liaison Pettijohn. For the year 1993, there had been contributions of \$4,259 and interest income amounting to \$5,784, with other minor income bringing the total to \$10,146. Expenses, which included \$1,100 for accounting audit, amounted to \$1,837; payment was made on a grant to the University of Georgia for \$5,000, making total expenses \$6,837, and leaving a balance of \$122,746. For this year through April 30th, contributions have amounted to \$1,978 for a total income of \$2,519; expenses were \$372 and the \$5,000 paid for the balance of grant to the University of Georgia, bringing the total in the fund to \$119,893. All officers and trustees were re-elected and there have been no applications for grants this year.

Slides Chairman Moller reported several changes and additions to the latest programs, particularly the second set of recent issues, the most popular request. Another way to show slides was the introduction to trivia games devised for educational fun, using the '70s and '80s introductions. This idea was enthusiastically received by the Board.

RVP Counsellor Stahly acknowledged that one hour was not sufficient for all the topics on the RVP meeting agenda; with Judges' Training Chairmen meeting following immediately, more time might be requested in the future. The officers elected to serve for the new year are: Personnel Committee, Marky Smith (13) and Mike Moller (20); Secretary, Maxine Perkins (23) to continue in office; RVP Chairman, Barbara Schmieder (1); RVP Board Representative, Mike Moller. There were no major problems presented and the topics for discussion were derived from a questionnaire circulated among the RVPs. Chairman RVP Meyer thanked the Board members who attended. In attendance at the convention were twenty-two of the twenty-four RVPs.

Convention Liaison Mahan distributed an updated schedule of convention locations from 1995 through 1999 which read: 1995, York, PA; 1996, Sacramento, CA; 1997, Detroit, MI; 1998, Denver, CO; 1999, Oklahoma City, OK. Scheduled fall Board meetings were listed for 1994, November 4, 5, 6, Albuquerque, NM and 1995, Oklahoma City, OK. Mahan moved, McWhirter seconded, that the Board accept an invitation from Dallas, Texas, for the year 2000 Spring Convention. Motion carried.

Section Liaison Aitken gave his report, citing the need for further meetings with Sections on mini-conventions and the importance of contacting the lawyer used by the AIS to help the Sections with their incorporation. A report on the elected representative to the 1995 Personnel Committee would be given later. Mullin requested that Sections holding mini-conventions send him dates and information for *The Bulletin*.

Under Special Reports, the study on mini-conventions had been deferred until fall. Barr asked for reappointment of the committee to study liability insurance with McWhirter as Chairman and Harder and Lowe as members. Corlew so moved, Niswonger seconded. Motion carried. Barr asked that the committee report at the fall meeting.

Under unfinished Business, Mahan reported on the status of the permanent Library, referring to the copies of the draft of Dresden's contract. He praised Joyce Reynolds for her great effort on this project, and thanked Region 7 and the City of Dresden for their support. Mahan emphasized that he was not going to critique the contract draft at that time but certainly felt it provided the basis for agreement. Reynolds spoke of the City's aldermen's concerns, of the interest shown by the Tennessee Environment and Conservation Department and of the \$15,000 appropriation by the Tennessee State Legislature for the establishment of the AIS Library at Dresden. Following discussion of the possibility of having the AIS Archives housed in the Library repository, Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded, that once the contract is in place, the AIS Archives be moved to the Dresden site, with the restriction that Archives material cannot be put in circulation. Motion carried.

With the present contract for storage ending July 1, it was felt, while there were still issues to be worked out between the Board and Dresden before presenting a signed contract in the fall, the question of where to store the library material until then was paramount for the safety of its contents. Mahan moved, Waters seconded, that the material now in Lincoln be shipped to Joyce Reynolds in Dresden, Tennessee, for storage.

In answer to the query of who would see to shipping, Mahan amended his motion to say that the Board request and authorize Henry Wolfe to be responsible for the transportation of the library material to Joyce Reynolds in Dresden, Tennessee, for storage. Waters seconded. Motion carried.

Additional remarks were made by Bob Plank on the draft of the contract of the City of Dresden; further discussion was deferred until later in the meeting.

Treasurer Corlew's interim report was brought up for consideration. As there were no questions, the report was filed.

President Barr brought up an item of Unfinished Business regarding the approval of a person to receive foreign publications and report items of interest to *The Bulletin*. Mahan volunteered. Corlew moved, Stahly seconded that Mahan be approved. Motion carried. Pursuing the international theme, there was an exchange of ideas regarding the possibility of an international symposium in the future. Niswonger noted that SIGNA will be holding an international species symposium in St. Louis next year, March 24-26.

Chairman Wilhoit delivered the report from the Personnel Committee composed of members Larry Harder, Barbara Schmieder, Maxine Perkins, Riley Probst and herself. Director Crick will have completed three consecutive 3-year terms and will be retiring in the fall. Stahly, Mahan and Witt have agreed

to serve again if nominated and elected. Four additional names were presented: Doug Goodnight, Lynda Miller, C.J. Lack and Shirley Pope. Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the three incumbent directors Stahly, Mahan and Witt be re-nominated. Motion carried. The Board moved to executive session to determine the additional nominee.

After reconvening to regular session, Barr announced that Lynda Miller is the new nominee, along with the incumbents Mahan, Stahly and Witt, for election as directors at the fall meeting.

Schmieder stated that there were twenty-eight Wister Medals remaining from the thirty cast for the total cost of \$3,665. She presented a money order made out to the AIS Secretary for future medals.

Waters again brought up the subject of the new membership brochures. After weighing the pros and cons of charging a fee, Niswonger moved, Aitken seconded, that single copies of the new AIS Invitation to Join could be bought for \$1, and in bulk, fifty for \$25 to clubs. Motion carried.

Gristwood moved that the price of the old Invitations to Join be lowered with the first 100 free. Motion withdrawn. Mahan moved, Harder seconded, that the old Invitations to Join be given away free upon request, limited to one pack of 100 per request. Motion carried.

In recognizing the need for a commemorative 75th Anniversary medal, Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that James Rasmussen be instructed to proceed with getting 500 copies of a commemorative medal struck in observance of the AIS 75th Anniversary and present price estimates to President Barr for Board approval as soon as possible. Motion carried. Mullin extended an offer to research medal prices also.

The Board recessed at 12 noon for lunch and re-convened at 1:30 p.m.

President Barr opened the afternoon session with a request for approval of a committee to do an in-depth study of *The Bulletin* as to needs both present and future, appointing Mullin to head the committee with Corlew and Harder as members. Niswonger so moved, Stahly seconded. Motion carried.

Mahan introduced Region 7 RVP Gifford who extended an invitation to the AIS Board for the 1996 fall Board meeting in Tennessee. Gifford planned to coordinate a trip to the Dresden Library for interested Board members. Waters moved, Gossett seconded, that the invitation be accepted. Motion carried.

For Board appointments to the 1995 Personnel Committee, Borr named Jeanne Plank and Glenn Corlew for approval by the Board; Mahan so moved; Waters seconded. Motion carried.

Shifting to the subject of the AIS attorney, Glen Spain, and the past history of difficulties, Corlew moved, Witt seconded, that relations with Spain be severed, that a new attorney be engaged who would notify Spain, and that the Board appoint a liaison independent of the Board to interact between the new attorney and the AIS. Following a lengthy discussion, Corlew withdrew his motion in favor of a new motion by Niswonger to authorize the AIS Secretary to contact Spain and determine his view of the relationship with the AIS and to report back to the President. Stahly seconded. Motion carried.

There was a paramount interest in the need to expedite the work on Section/Regional liability and tax exemption, and of the necessity of filing separately from the AIS. It was recalled that Spain's last report had spelled out solutions and offered to help the Sections accomplish them and that \$500 had been authorized to each Section toward that end, but that when there was difficulty in reaching Spain, the Sections had been advised to use the authorized amount to proceed on their own. Though no action was taken, the consensus was that the report in question should be made available to the Sections for a better understanding of their relationship to the AIS and of the tax-exempt issue.

Barr welcomed Dr. Fulton, Scientific Committee Chairman, to the meeting. Before giving his report, Dr. Fulton relayed a request from Currier McEwen to inform the Board about the progress of his new book on Siberian Iris. The manuscript should be in the publisher's hands within weeks and in print by the next convention. McEwen also wished to convey his thanks to the Board and to the AIS for their help.

On the Disease Project involving Apogons, McEwen had composed and mailed a questionnaire to various gardens, requesting responses with specific descriptions on viruses attacking plants, with the offer to test any sent him. Dr. Fulton stated that any information on the subject of diseased plants was also encouraged from anyone present.

Fulton next gave his recommendation on Dr. Henderson's monograph on classification of irises sent to him for evaluation. He felt Dr. Henderson had compiled a cohesive document and was a thorough and careful scholar-scientist. The monograph was deemed worthy and useful to be published as an entity, but needed peer review for scientific data. Mahan moved, Witt seconded, that Dr. Fulton communicate the information on the report to Dr. Henderson, and that if the recommended changes were made in the monograph, that it be presented to the Board. Motion carried.

The President called attention to the up-coming vacancy in the Treasurer's office and asked the Board to consider their recommendations before fall. Corlew has agreed to remain through the transition period until a new treasurer can be named.

Mahan was called upon to complete the business remaining on the Library contract. With the copies before each member, Mahan invited questions from the Board. The first question was regarding the explanation of Section III, Number 6, on financial assistance by the AIS, which brought up the discussion on financial commitment proposed in the beginning, requiring no assistance in funding from the AIS. Reynolds, liaison for the Library in Dresden, explained that the City Council was not clear on how much financial assistance would be expected from Dresden in the normal operational details of organizing, cataloguing and micro-filming, etc. In discussion, Mahan stated that the expectations of any AIS

assistance must be made clear before a contract could be drawn to everyone's satisfaction. This is important in that there are no funds allocated in the AIS budget for the Library maintenance; the Library is to be sustained on donations and contributions alone. Barr called for a ten-minute break to consider all the facts; the meeting reconvened at 3:42 p.m.

Before resuming discussion Barr introduced Professor Sergio Orsi, President of The Italian Iris Society, who was welcomed with applause. In his greeting to the Board, he said he had brought ten members of The Italian Iris Society to the convention.

Returning to the discussion of the Library, Reynolds read from the AIS contract Mahan had sent to the City of Dresden, "Dresden will provide fully qualified staff to inventory, catalogue, file and maintain all AIS materials, and to handle authorized researchers' requests for use of holdings," stating that the city asked her how in-depth this responsibility would be, considering that the initial time designated was understood to be three years. Mahan re-emphasized the fact that the basic fundamental need is an inventory listing a description of the condition of each in a scholarly-like way; detailing, such as cross-referencing, etc., was a special project and not considered basic to the maintenance of the Library. A motion was made by Mahan that Section III, number 6, be removed from the draft of the Dresden proposed contract. Plank seconded. Motion carried.

Section II, number 9, of the proposal presented another point of debate having to do with ownership of any microfilm purchased by the City. Reynolds felt this a misinterpretation by the lawyer in Dresden when the sentence was added in the contract, and that what had actually been discussed was that any equipment purchased by the City, such as a copier machine, would remain the property of the City, and any film with AIS information would be the property of the AIS. After Reynold's explanation, Mahan agreed that ownership of physical material unrelated to the AIS was acceptable and did not compromise the intellectual rights of the Library.

Corlew questioned Section I, number 1, as the time period of three years for the initial duration of the contract and pointed out that the Board had specified a period of two years. Niswonger moved, Harder seconded, that the Board accept a period of three years. Motion carried.

Mahan invited any further concerns and in-put from the Board that would help him to negotiate a good contract with Dresden by the fall Board meeting. With respect to storing the Library in Dresden until a contract had been signed, Mahan pointed out it had already been voted upon and that he had all confidence in Joyce Reynolds for safe-keeping of the materials. He added that at some time rules and operating procedures for the Library would need to be drawn up, probably requiring a permanent Library Committee to oversee them in addition to some consultation with professional librarians for advice. Mahan expressed his desire to have things ready to go by fall when the contract is presented for approval.

Barr announced the fall Board meeting would be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on November 4, 5, and 6, 1994.

On behalf of the Board, Barr thanked The Greater Portland Iris Society and President John Ludi, Convention Chairman Terry Aitken and all his committee members for their hospitality and for the excellent accommodations at the Hilton.

Niswonger made a correction on the number of silver medals for awards on hand from two to four, eliminating the need to use the "keeper" medal this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Joanne S. King, Recording Secretary, AIS

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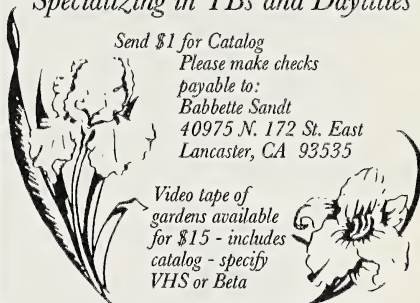
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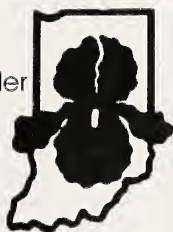
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